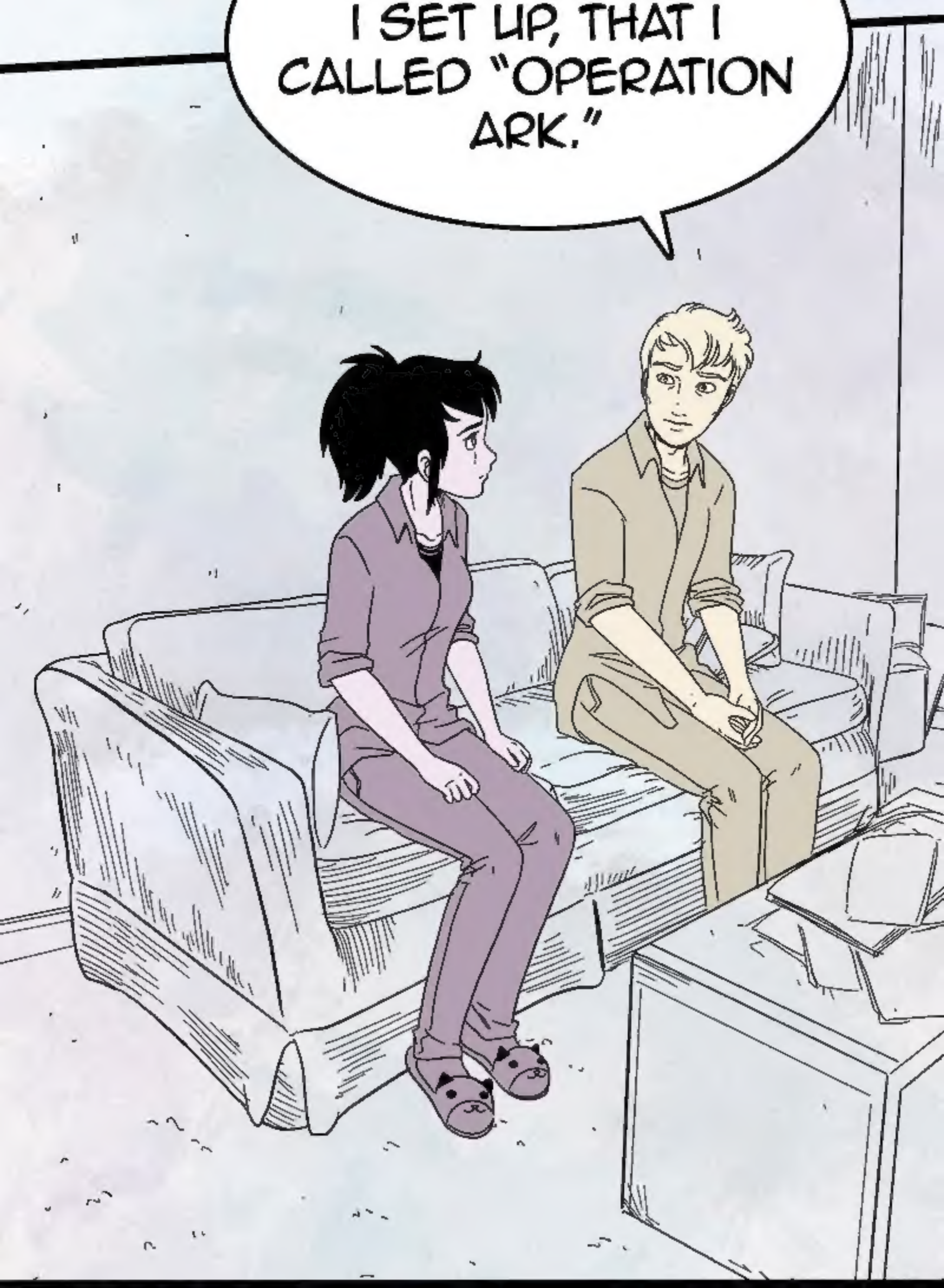
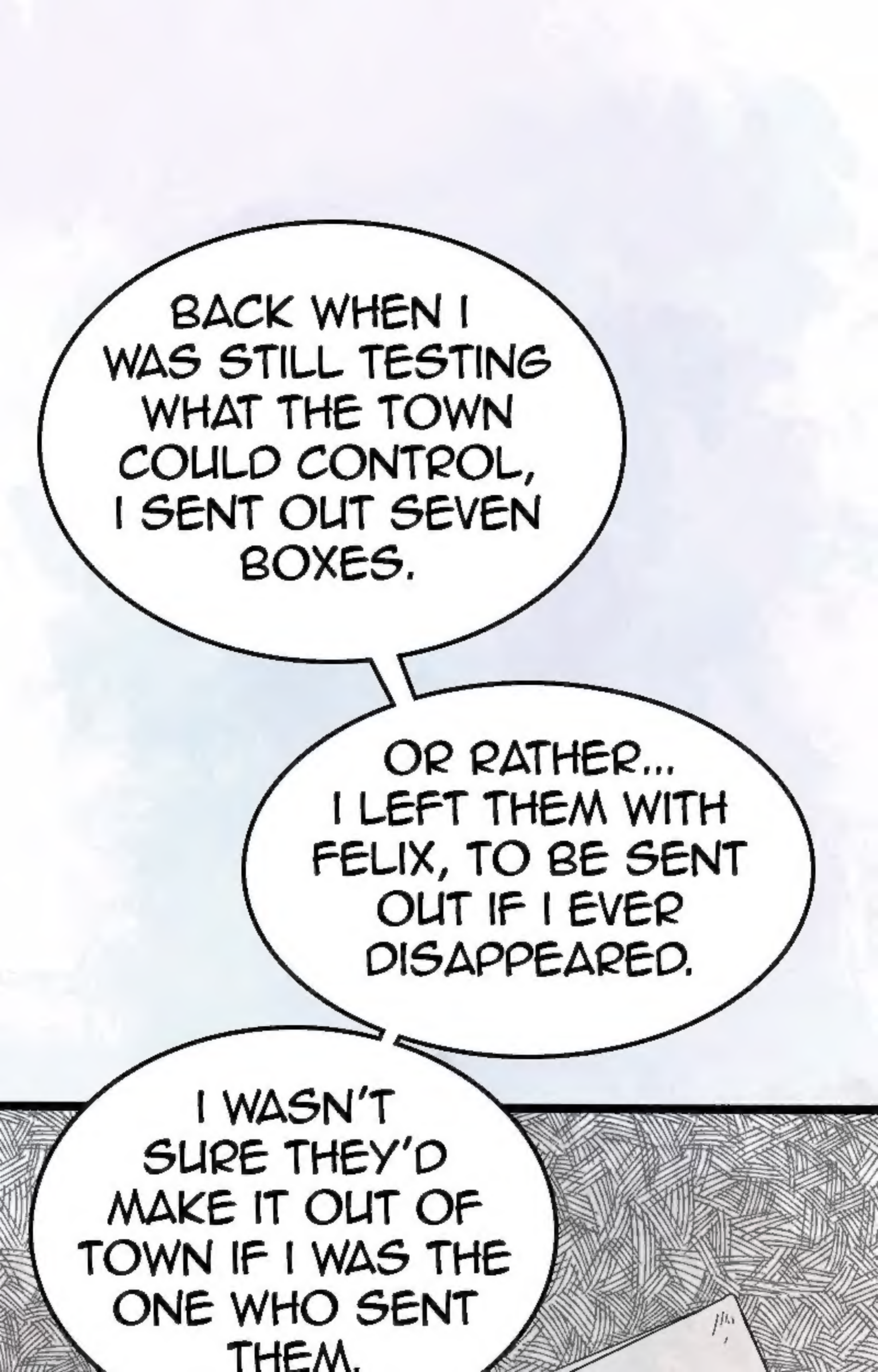
AFTER EXHAUSTING EVERY OTHER LEAD, WE DECIDED THAT THE ONLY WAY WE'D FIND ANY ANSWERS TO ALL THESE QUESTIONS...

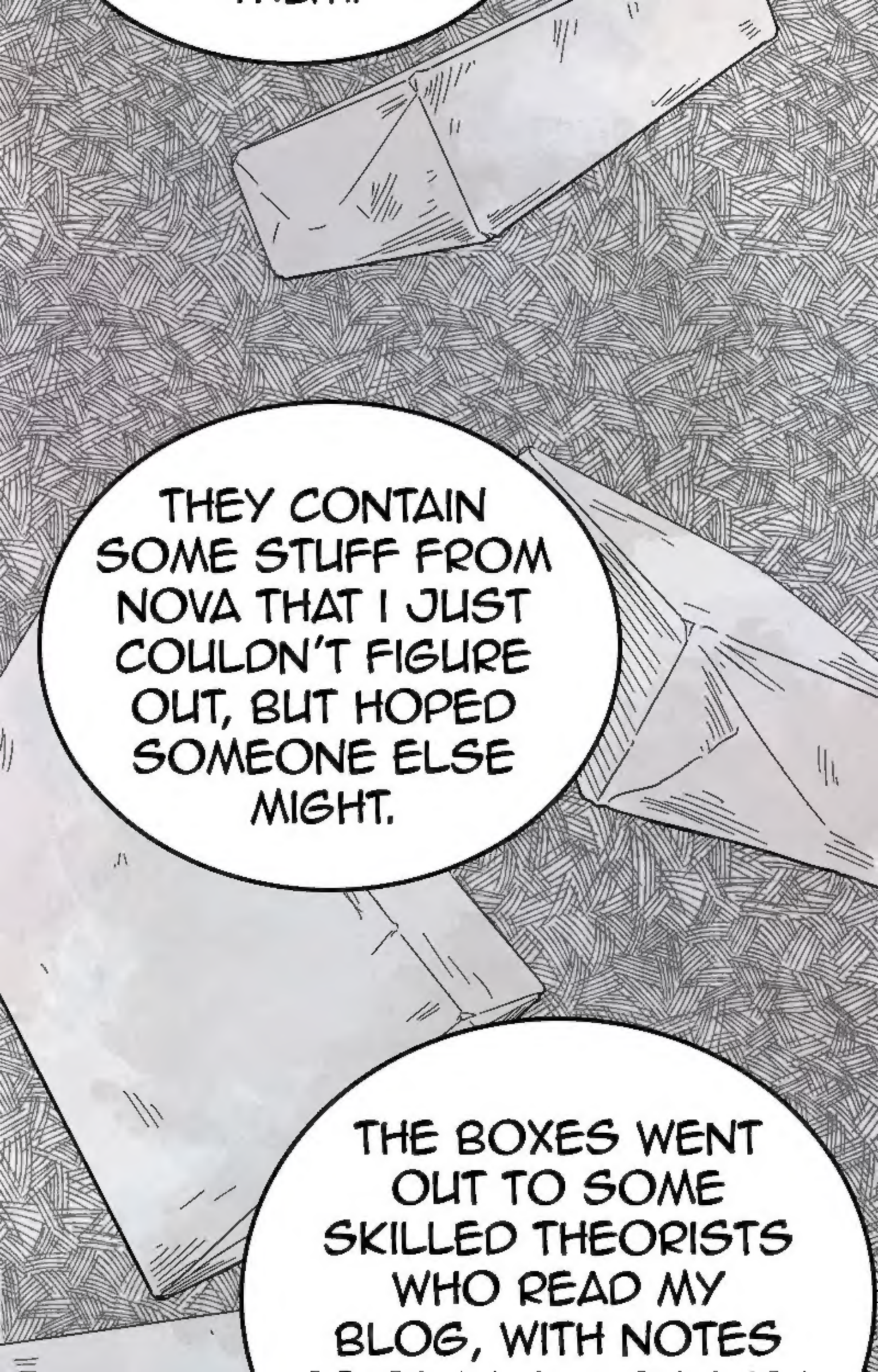
...WAS TO DO SOMETHING DESPERATE.

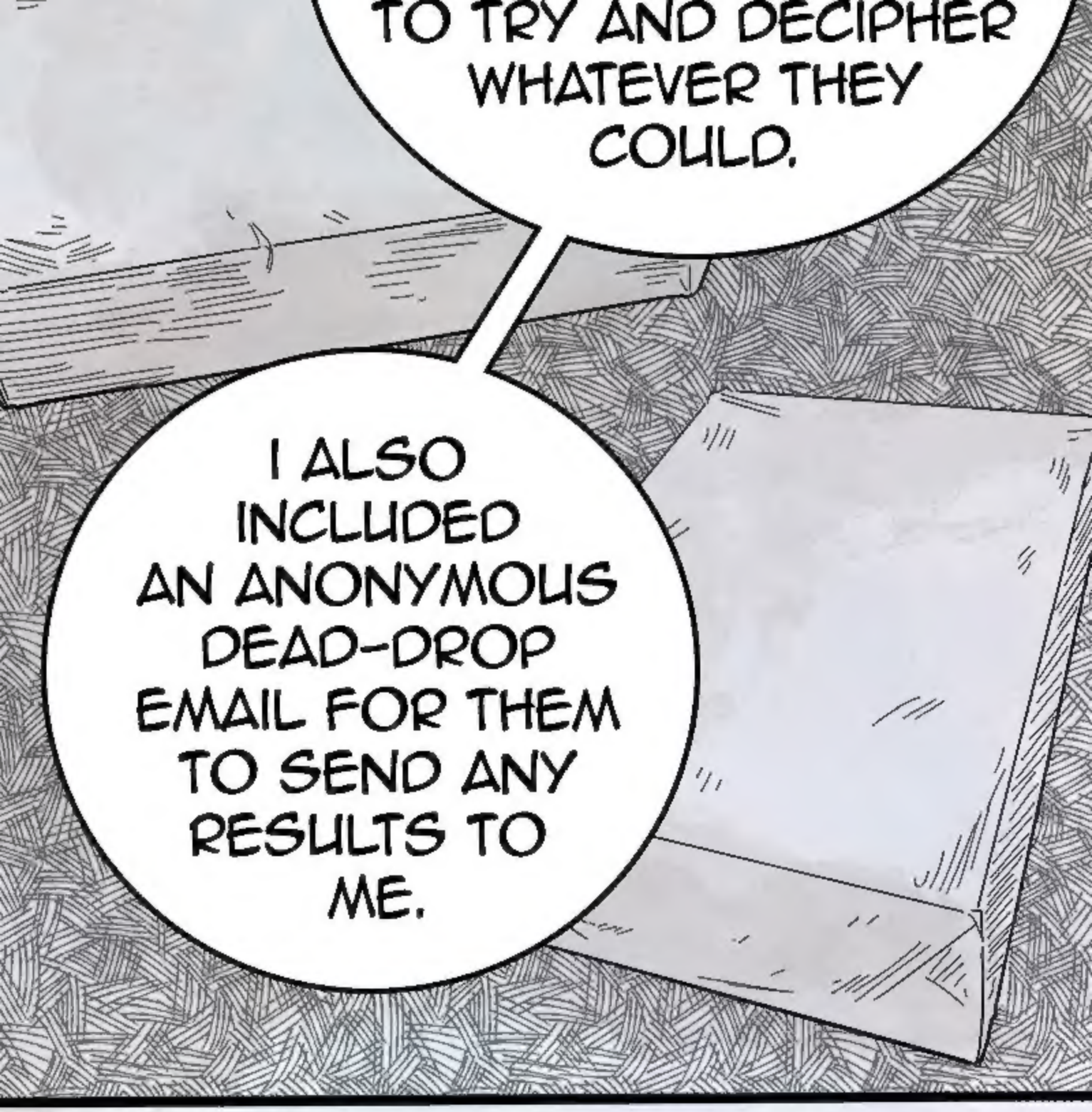
THE ARK
part one

IT WAS SOMETHING I'D HOPED WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO RELY ON.
BUT... SEEING AS WE'RE GETTING NOWHERE...
I HAD SOMETHING


I SET UP, THAT I CALLED "OPERATION ARK."


BACK WHEN I WAS STILL TESTING WHAT THE TOWN COULD CONTROL, I SENT OUT SEVEN BOXES.
OR RATHER... I LEFT THEM WITH FELIX, TO BE SENT OUT IF I EVER DISAPPEARED.
I WASN'T SURE THEY'D MAKE IT OUT OF TOWN IF I WAS THE ONE WHO SENT THEM.


THEY CONTAIN SOME STUFF FROM NOVA THAT I JUST COULDN'T FIGURE OUT, BUT HOPED SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT.
THE BOXES WENT OUT TO SOME SKILLED THEORISTS WHO READ MY BLOG, WITH NOTES



HONESTLY, I SET UP A *LOT* OF FAILSAFES AND STUFF...THIS ENTITY

THING DOESN'T SEEM TO FULLY UNDERSTAND TECHNOLOGY.

BUT IT LEARNS *FAST*, AND IT SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY ONLINE STUFF BEING ACCESSED FROM WITHIN THE TOWN.

YOU THINK IT WOULD KNOW IF WE TRIED TO CHECK FOR THAT EMAIL FROM OUTSIDERS?

I'M SURE OF IT.

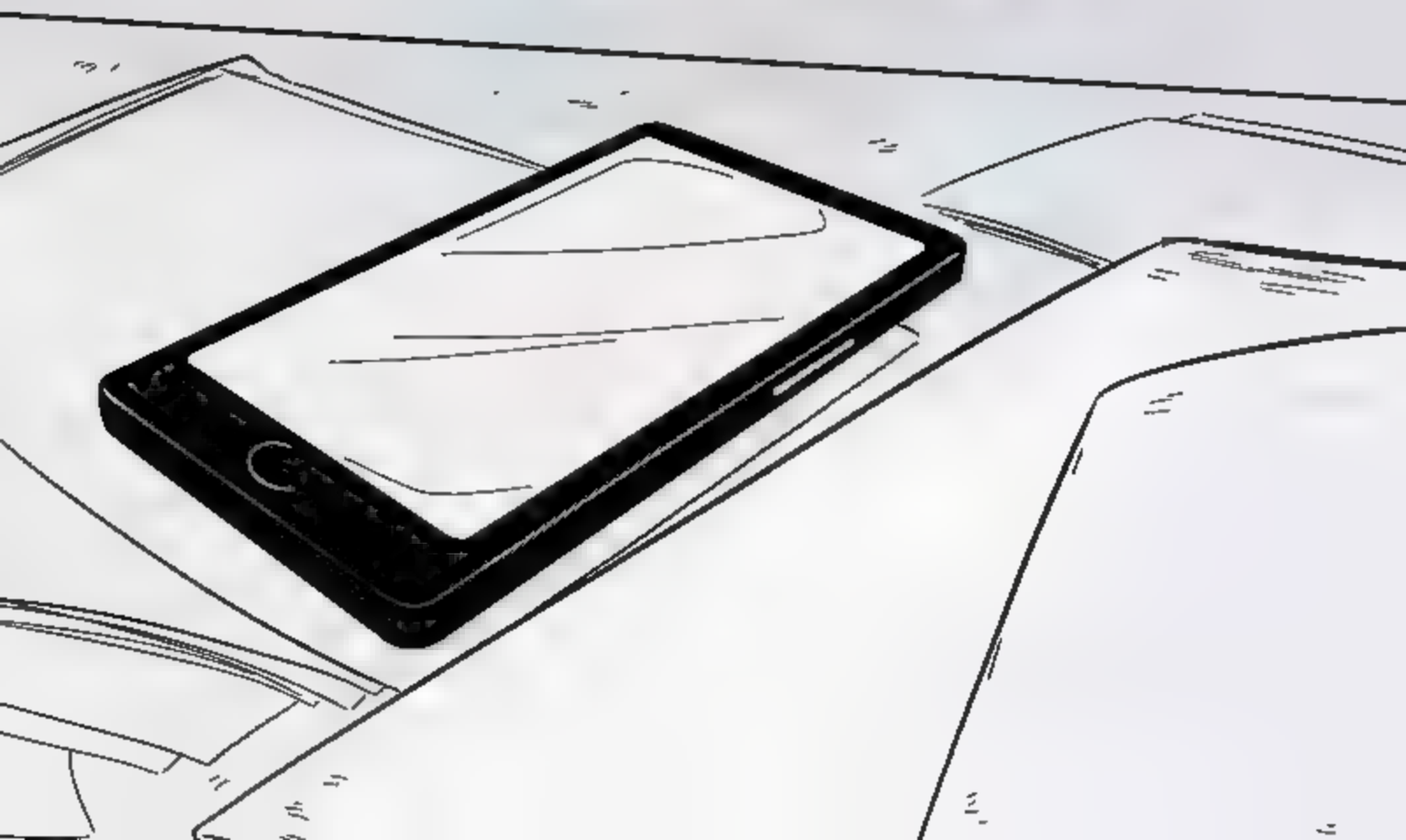
I WILL SAY THAT IF THERE *IS* A MESSAGE WAITING FOR US...

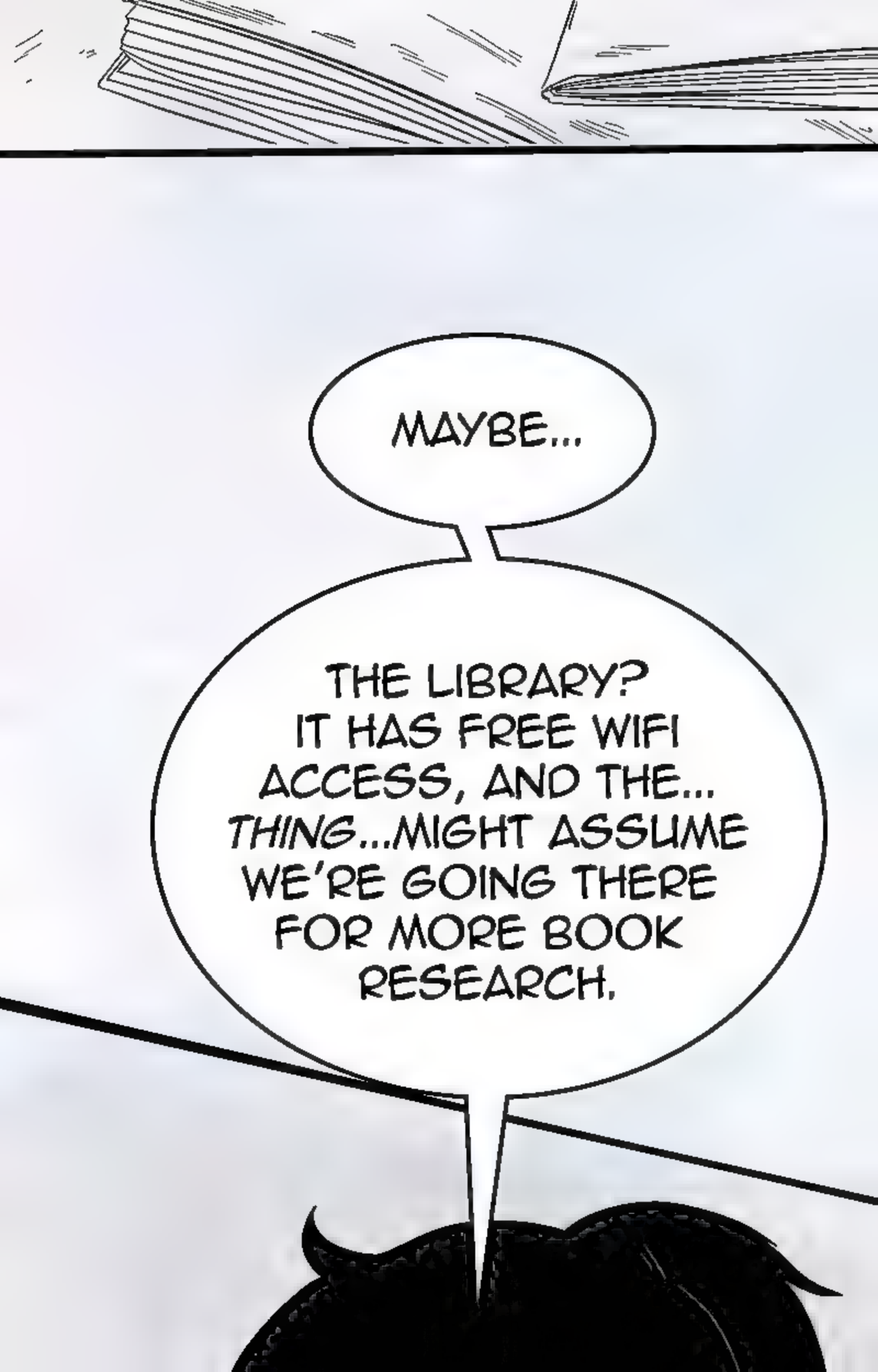
AND THAT'S A VERY BIG *IF*...

WE NEED TO FIND A COMPUTER WITH INTERNET CONNECTION TO RETRIEVE IT.

AND WE'D BETTER BE PREPARED TO GRAB THE MESSAGE *FAST*, BEFORE THE ENTITY HAS TIME TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WE'RE DOING.

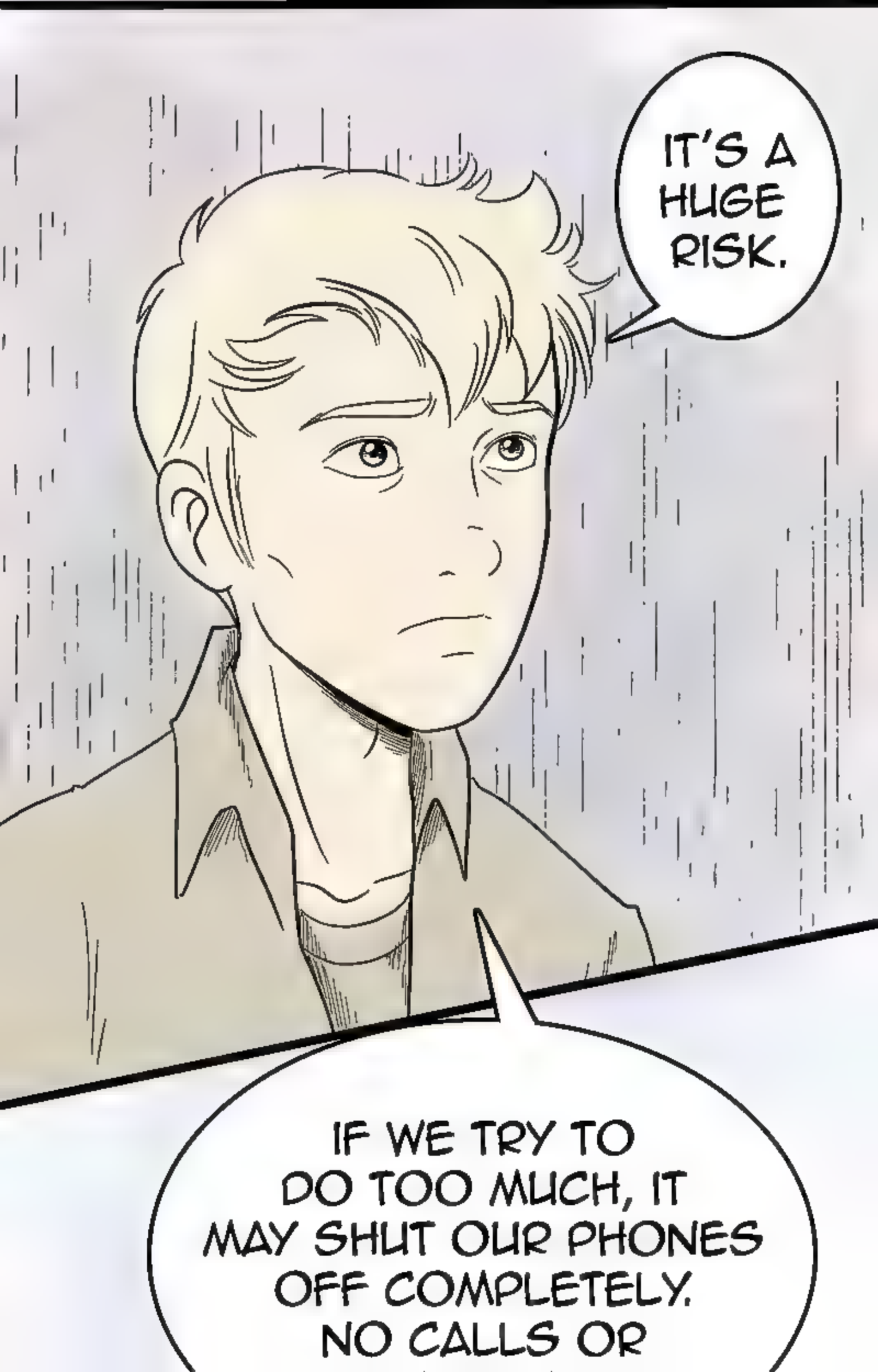
IT'S SHUT OUR PHONES OFF FROM ANY EMAIL ENTIRELY, BUT THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMEWHERE IN TOWN WITH FULL INTERNET ACCESS.




MAYBE...
THE LIBRARY? IT HAS FREE WIFI ACCESS, AND THE... *THING*...MIGHT ASSUME WE'RE GOING THERE FOR MORE BOOK RESEARCH.

WE JUST NEED TO BE REALLY FAST.
IF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS TRUE, WE

MIGHT ONLY HAVE A FEW SECONDS TO CHECK, BEFORE IT SHUTS EVERYTHING DOWN.


IT'S A HUGE RISK.
IF WE TRY TO DO TOO MUCH, IT MAY SHUT OUR PHONES OFF COMPLETELY. NO CALLS OR

ANYTHING.

I THINK IT JUST DOESN'T REALIZE YET HOW MUCH WE STILL HAVE ACCESS TO...

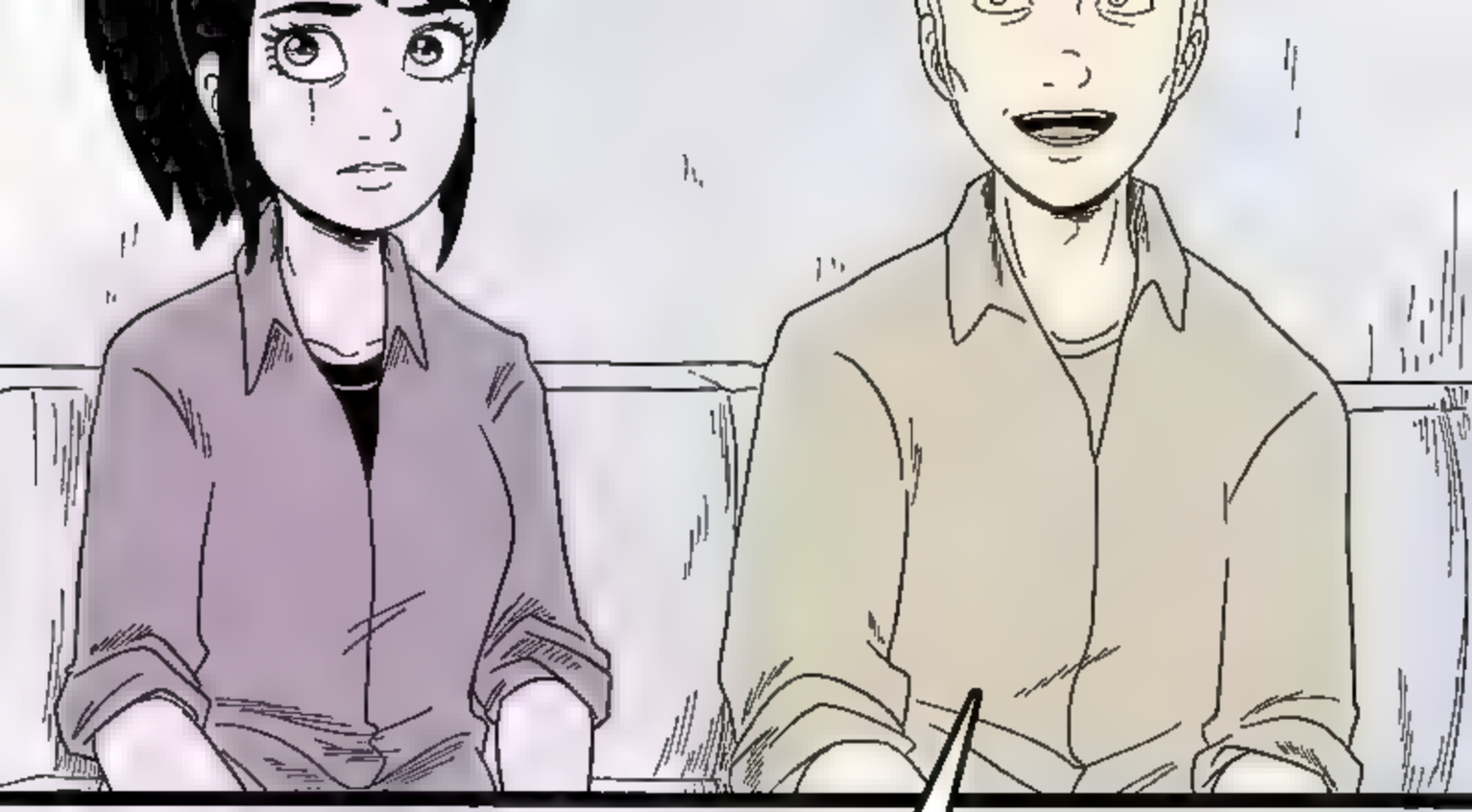
...SO WE NEED TO DRAW AS LITTLE ATTENTION AS POSSIBLE AND KEEP IT THAT WAY.

AND WE *HAVE* TO GET THAT EMAIL.

SLAM!

SOUNDS LIKE FELIX IS HOME.

HEY DUDE!



WE'RE GONNA HAVE SOME LUNCH, IF YOU WANNA JOIN!

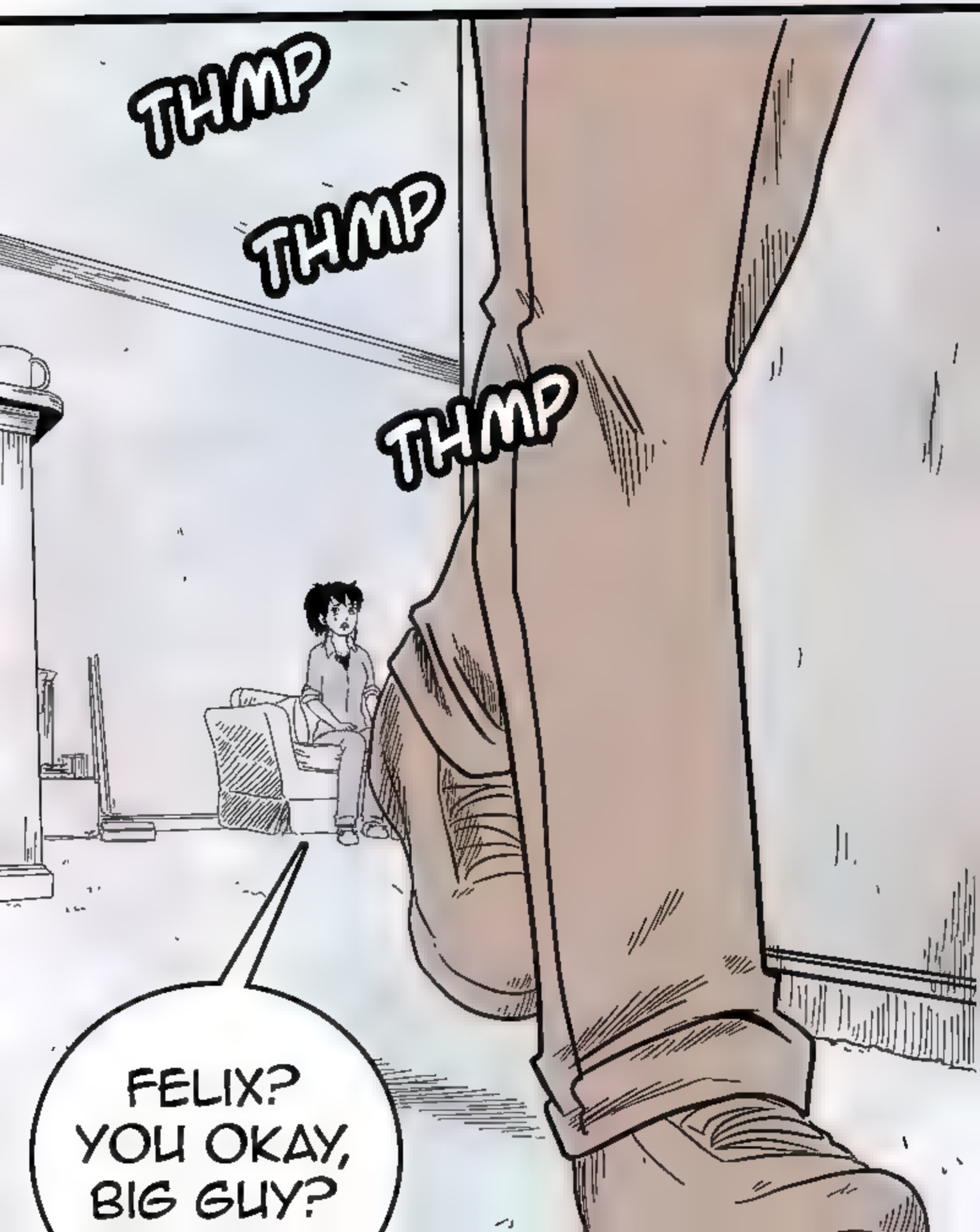
THMP

THMP

THMP

OR...

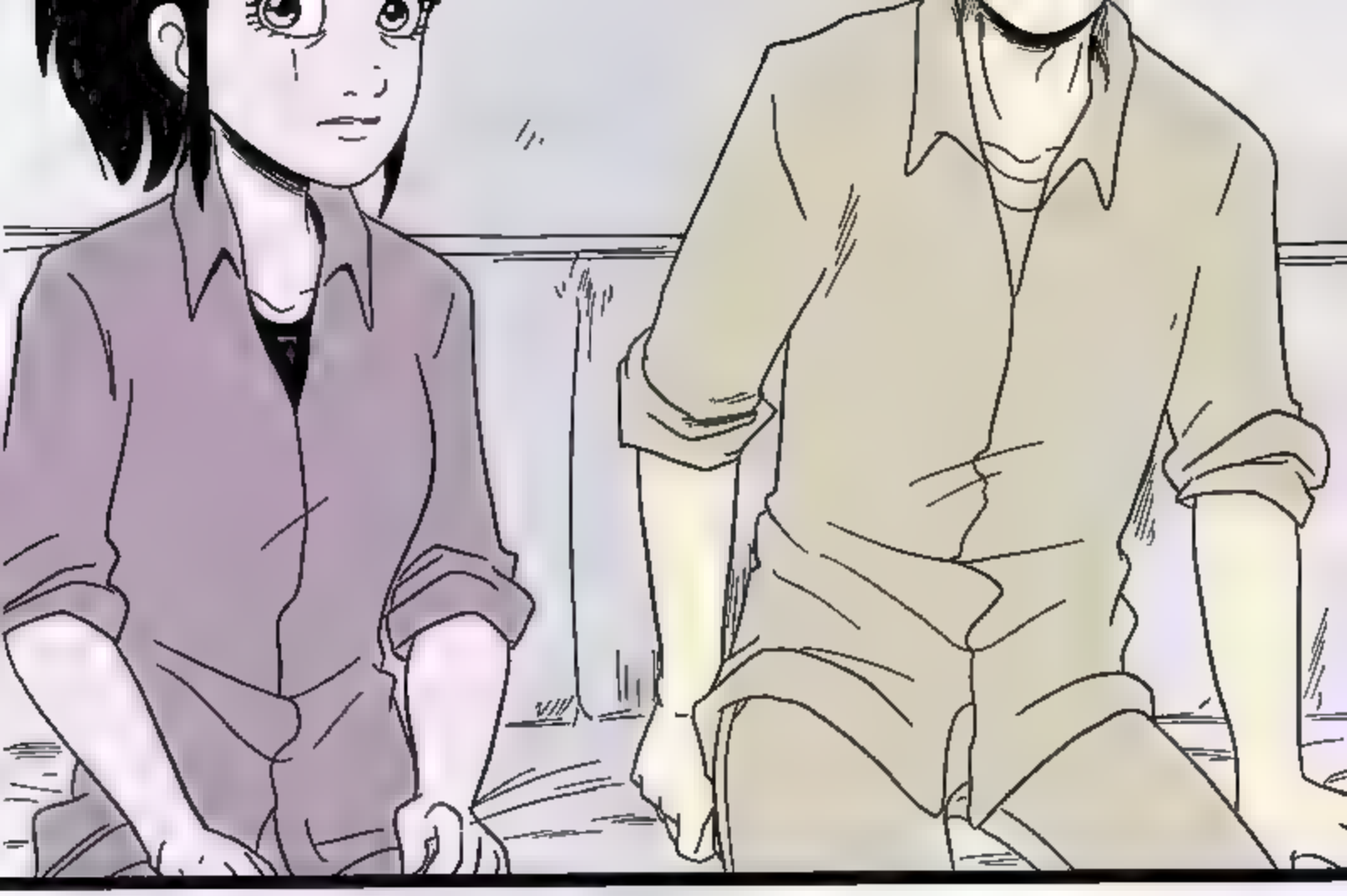
NOT?



SLAM

WHAT WAS *THAT* ALL ABOUT?

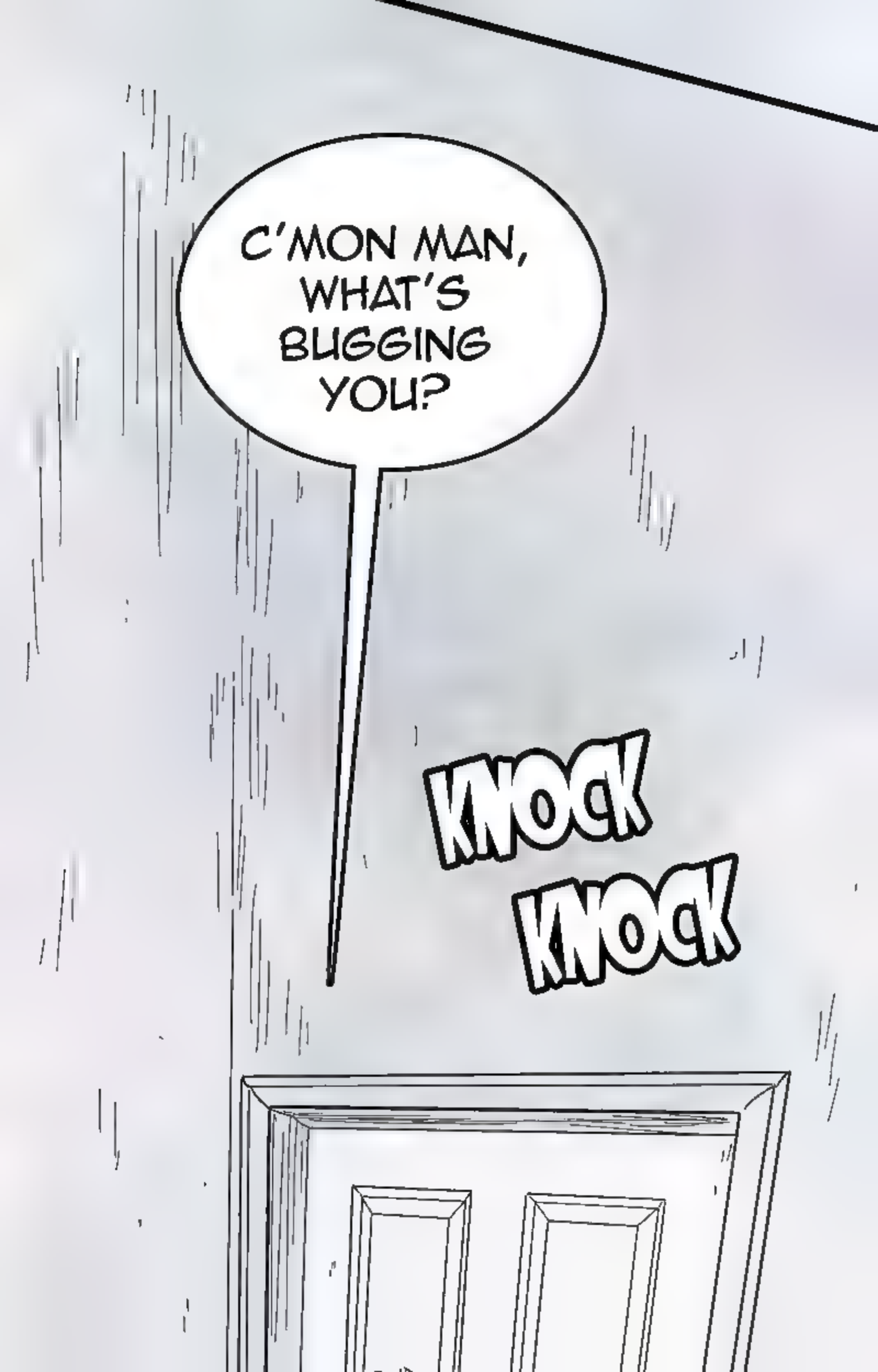
DUNNO. I'LL GO CHECK.



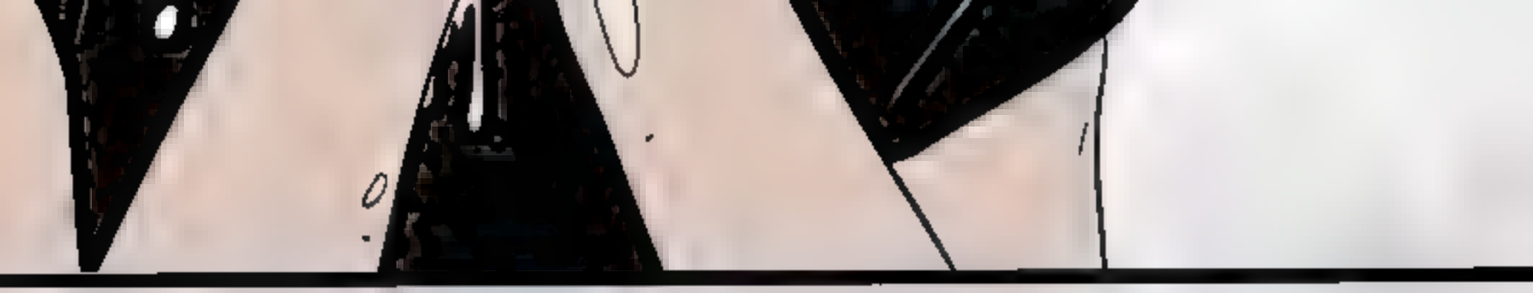
KNOCK
KNOCK

KNOCK
FELIX?
KNOCK
KNOCK
EVERYTHING OKAY, PAL?

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
HEY, FELIX!
KNOCK
KNOCK


C'MON MAN, WHAT'S BUGGING YOU?
KNOCK
KNOCK

C'MON, DUDE!
KNOCK KNOCK
SPLSH



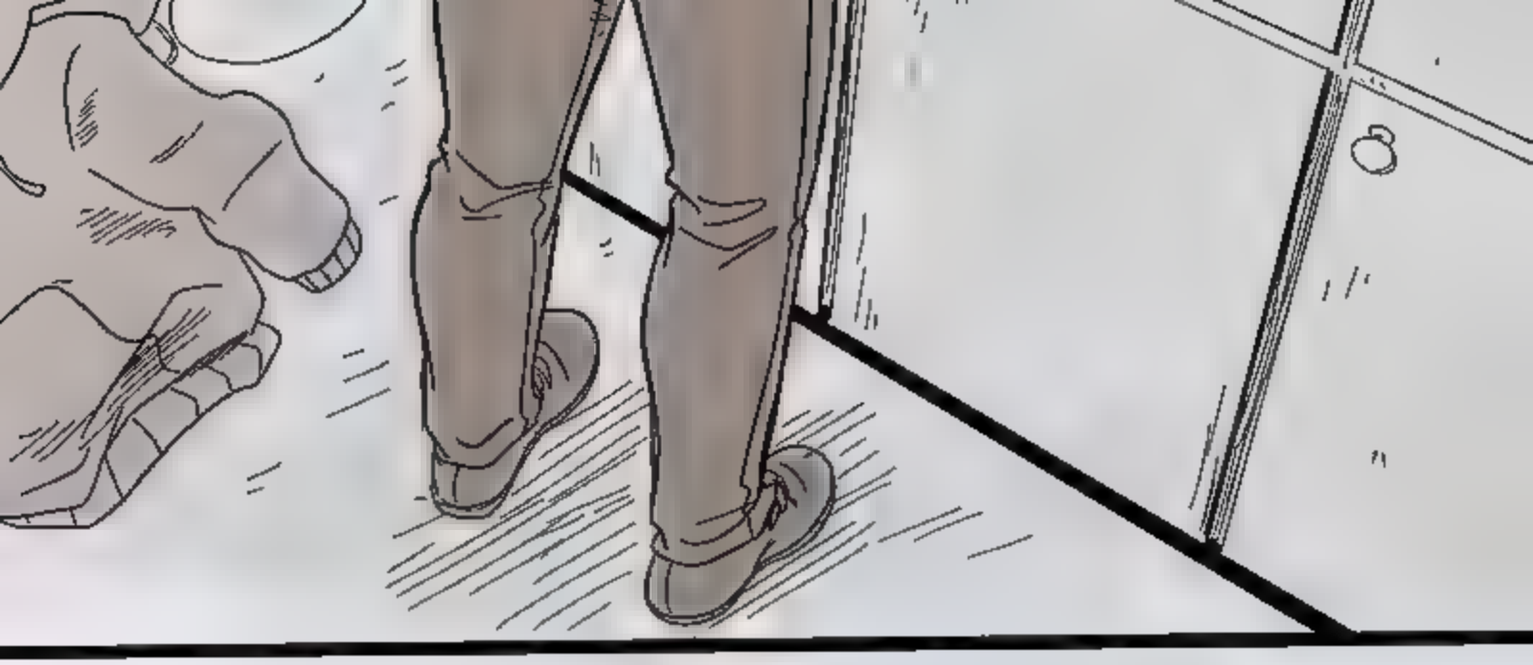
I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME, DOOFUS!

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

HAAHH...

COUGH

FELIX!



KNOCK KNOCK

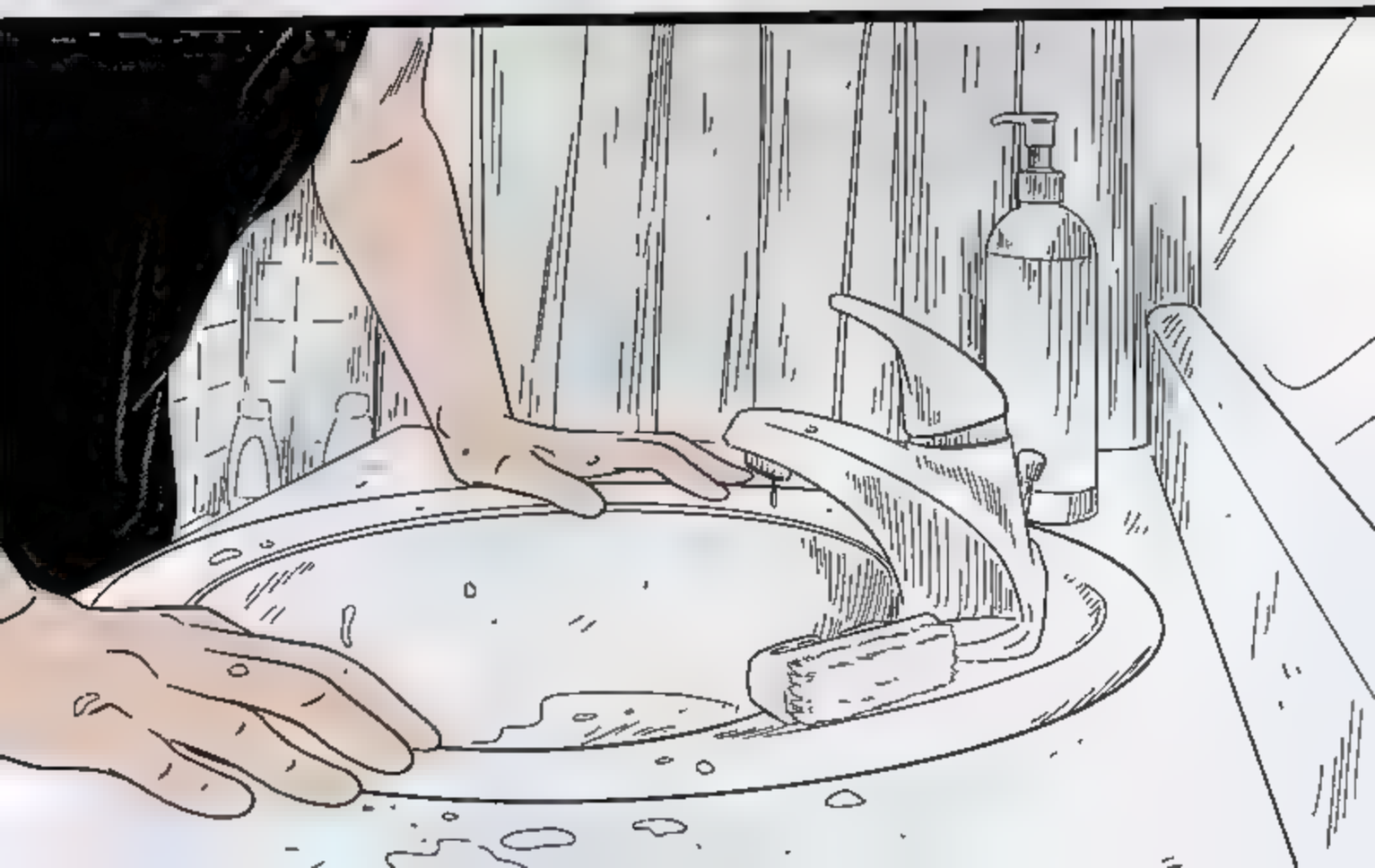
I HAVE...

FELIX!

I GOTTA TELL THEM...

I HAVE TO TELL–

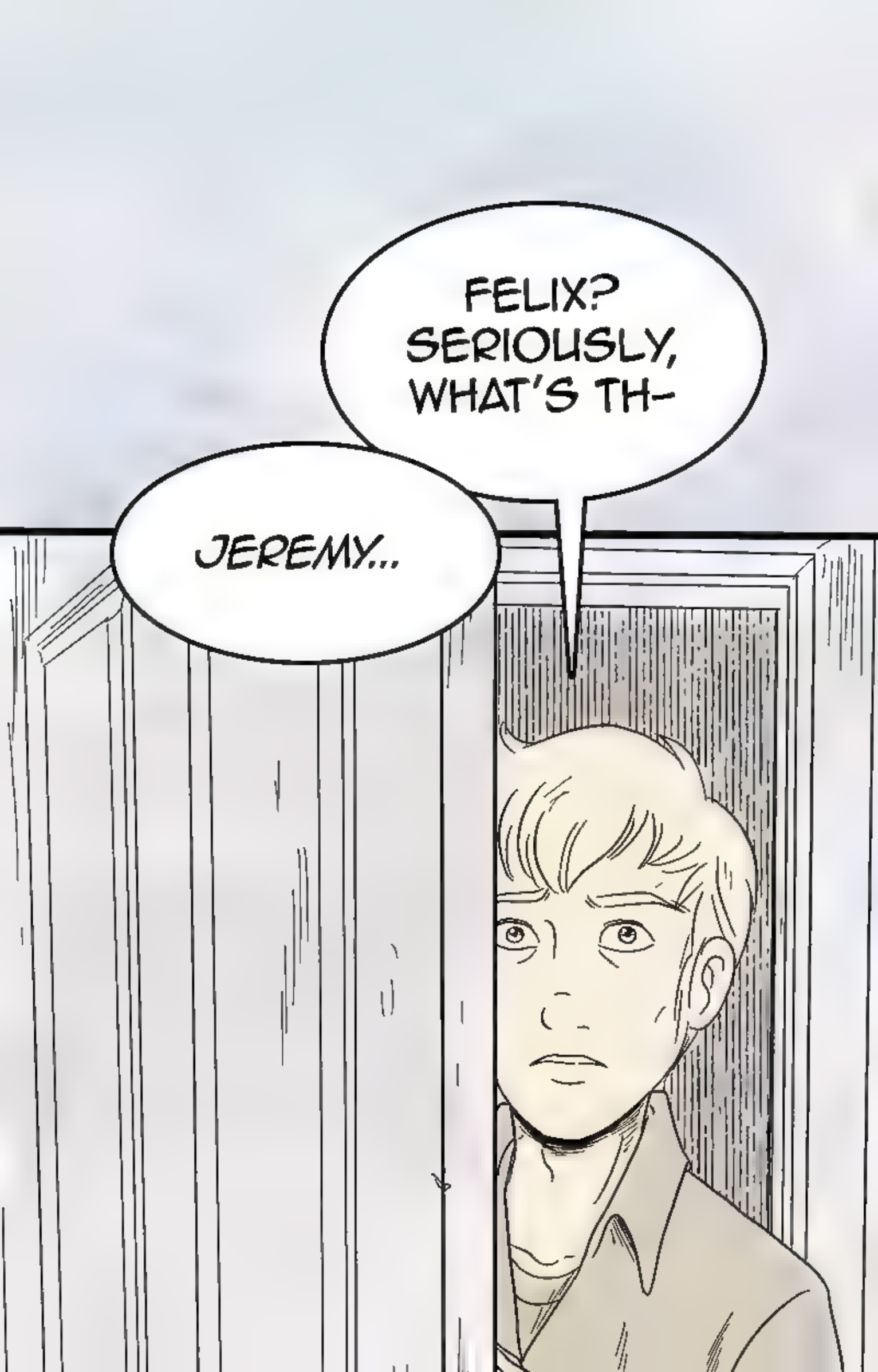
GOD, MY HEAD...



KNOCK
KNOCK

FINE, I'M COMING IN!

NOT MY FAULT IF YOU AREN'T DECENT!

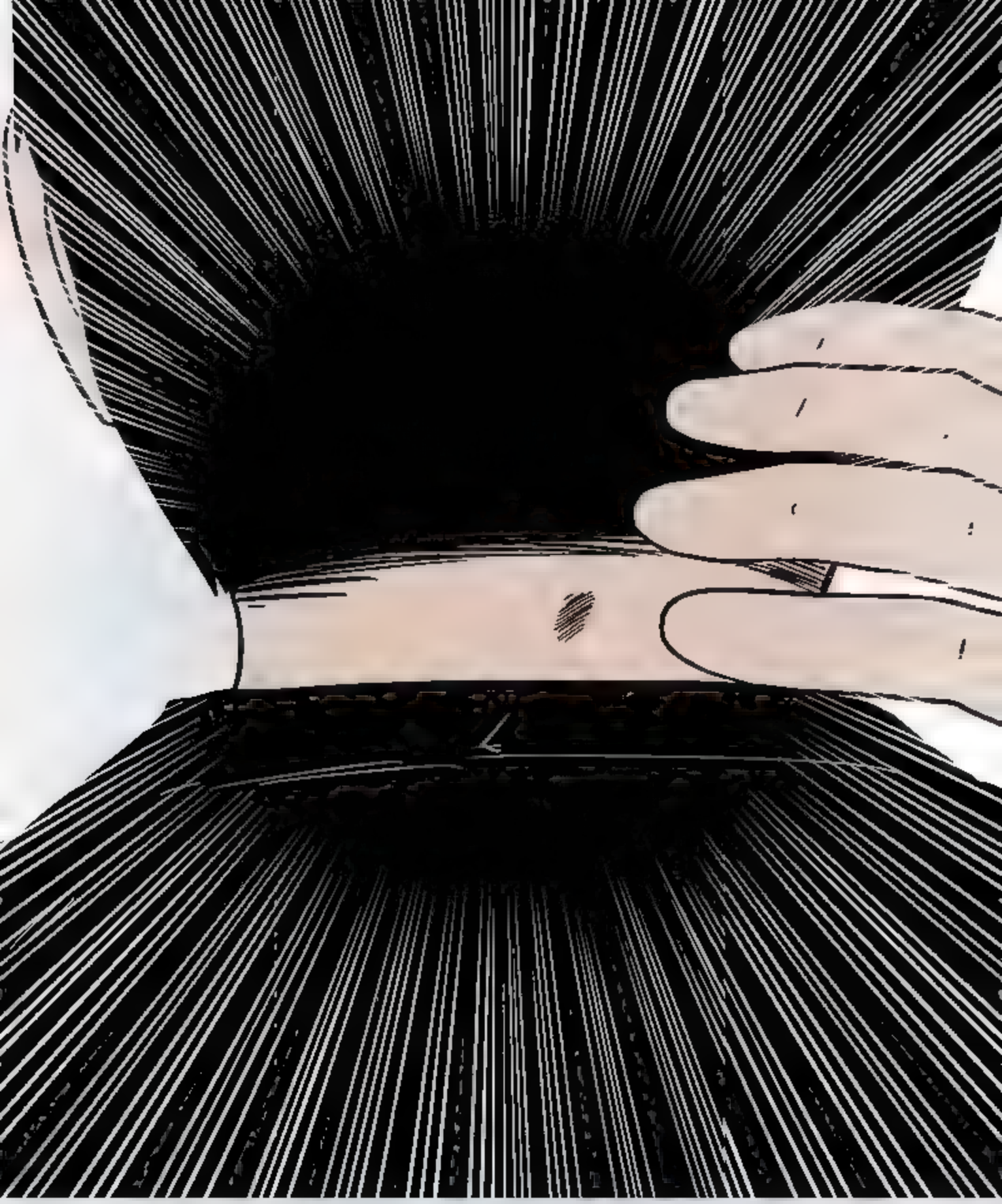

FELIX? SERIOUSLY, WHAT'S TH-
JEREMY...

I...

DUDE, YOU LOOK SICK...

THERE'S...

I HAVE TO T-
AAAHH!



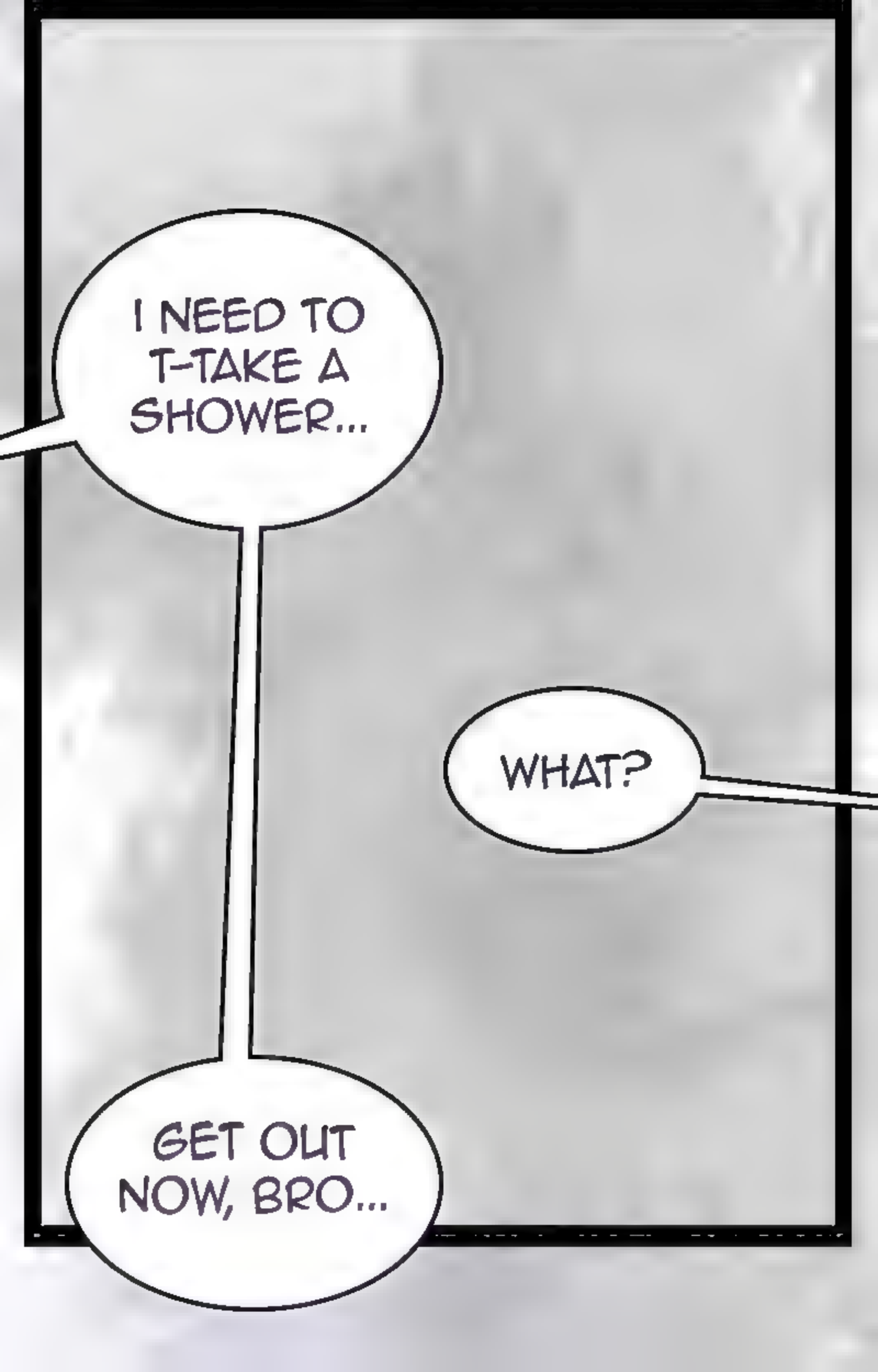
FELIX?

WHAT'S THE MATTER? ARE YOU HURT?

KRRZSK

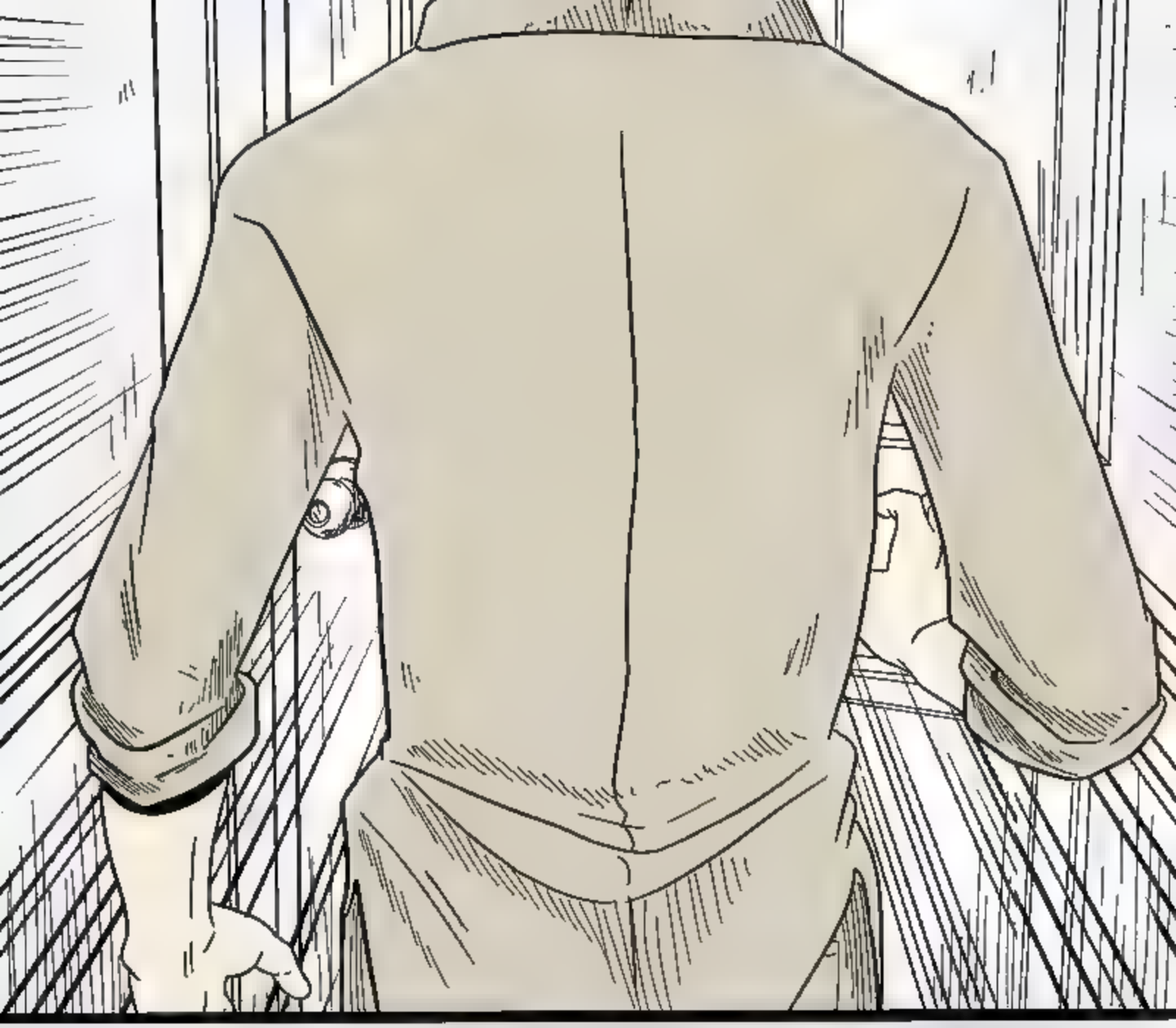
FELIX?
BUDDY? YOU ALL RIGHT?
S-STOP SCARING ME, MAN...

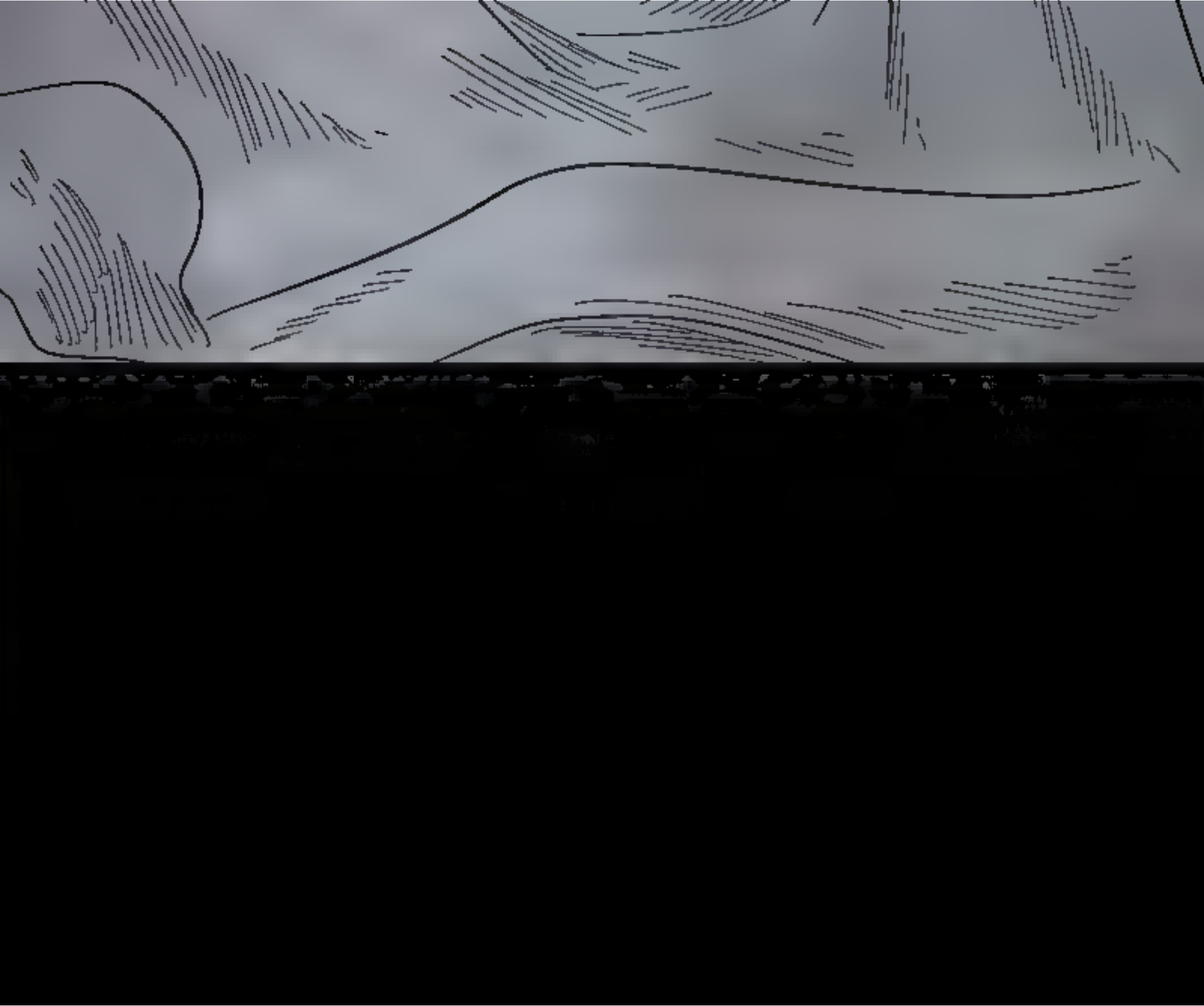
I'M...


I NEED TO T-TAKE A SHOWER...
WHAT?
GET OUT NOW, BRO...

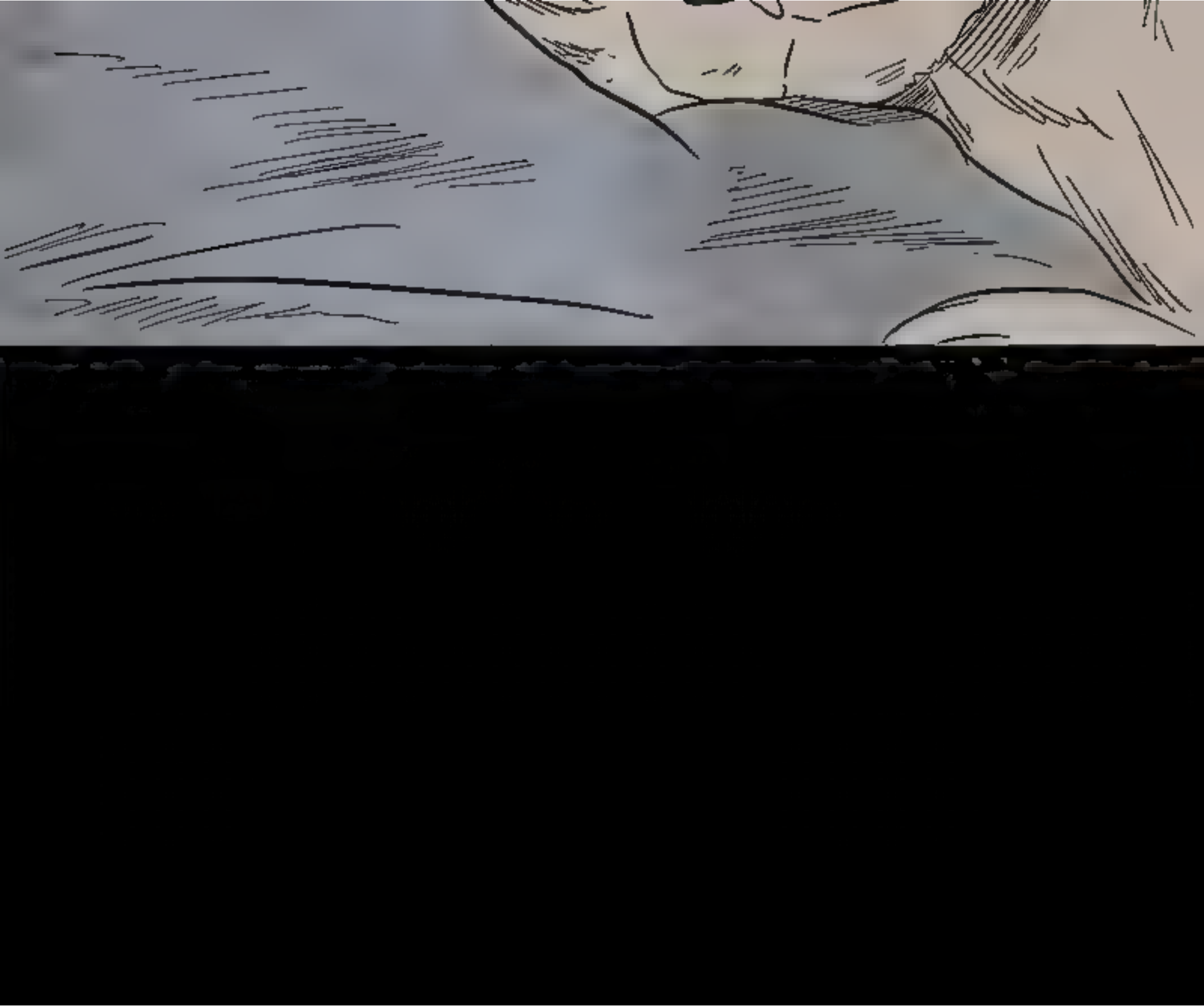
FELIX, WHAT THE HELL-
OW! DON'T PUSH!
GOOOO ON... OUT...

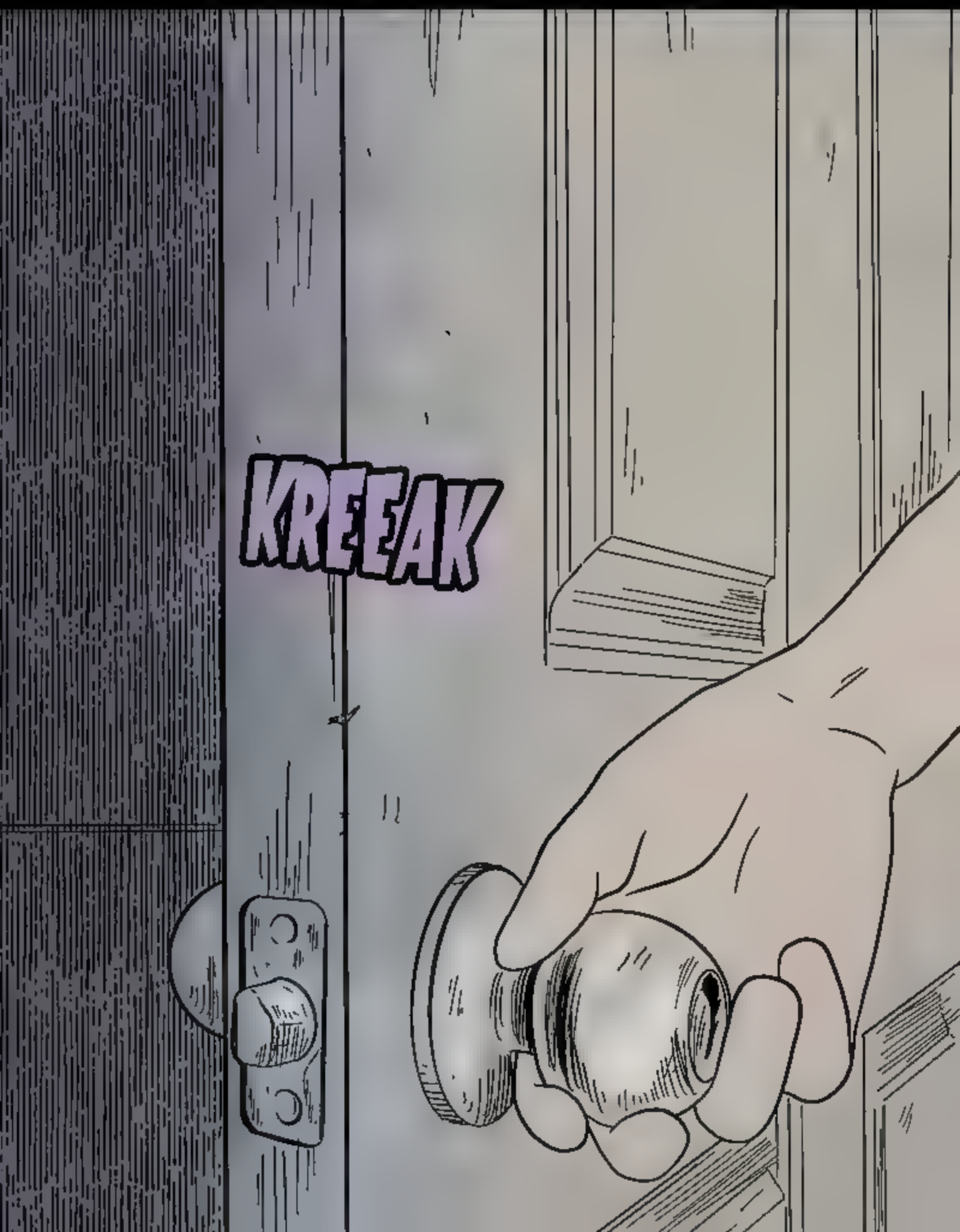
SLAM!

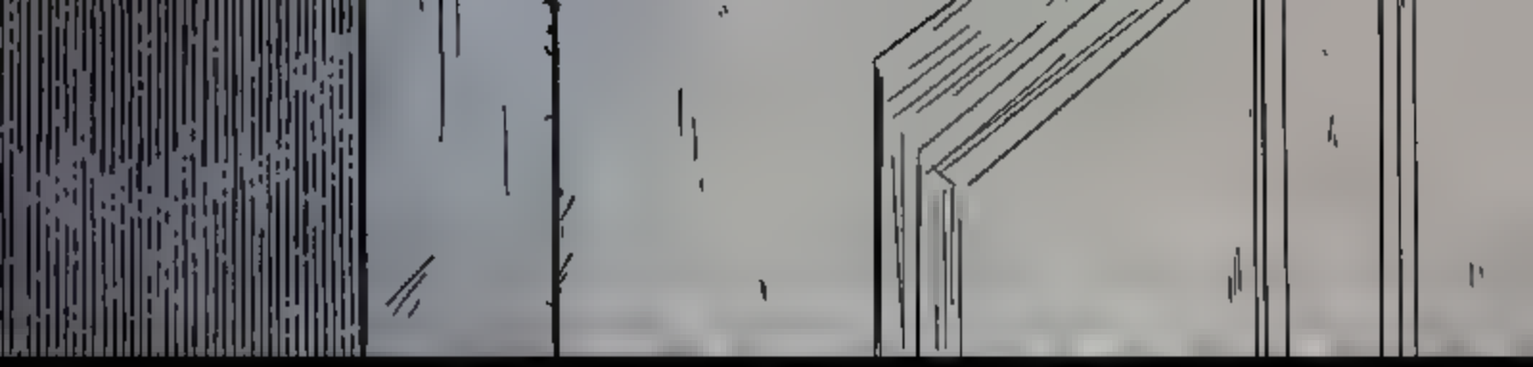


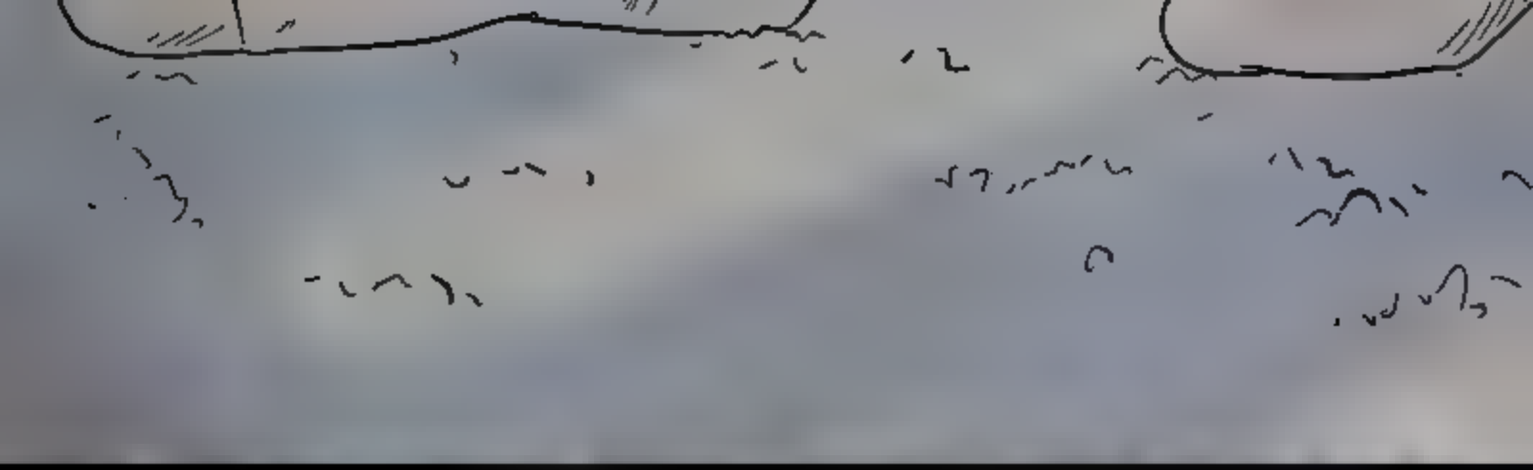


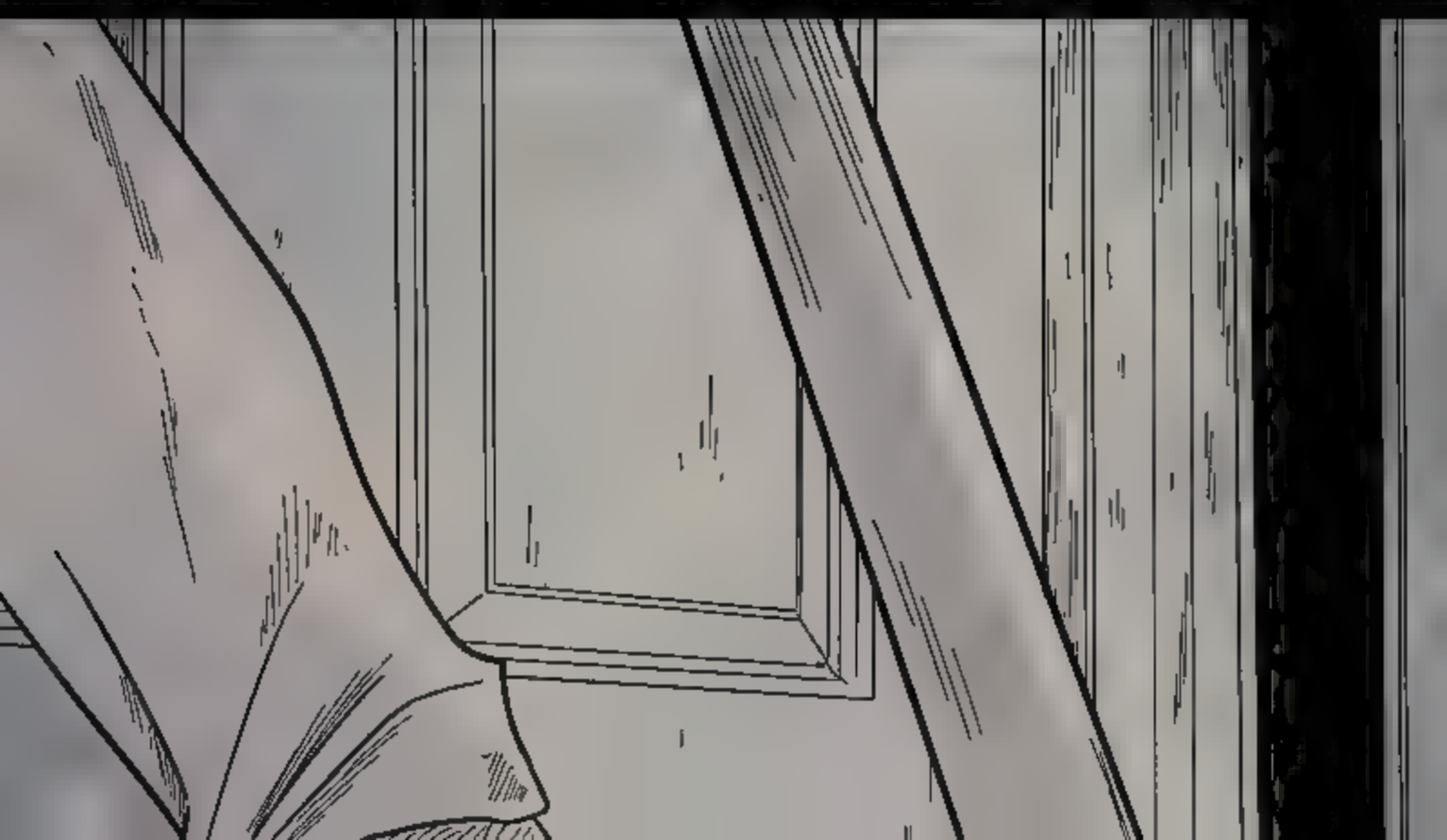
click



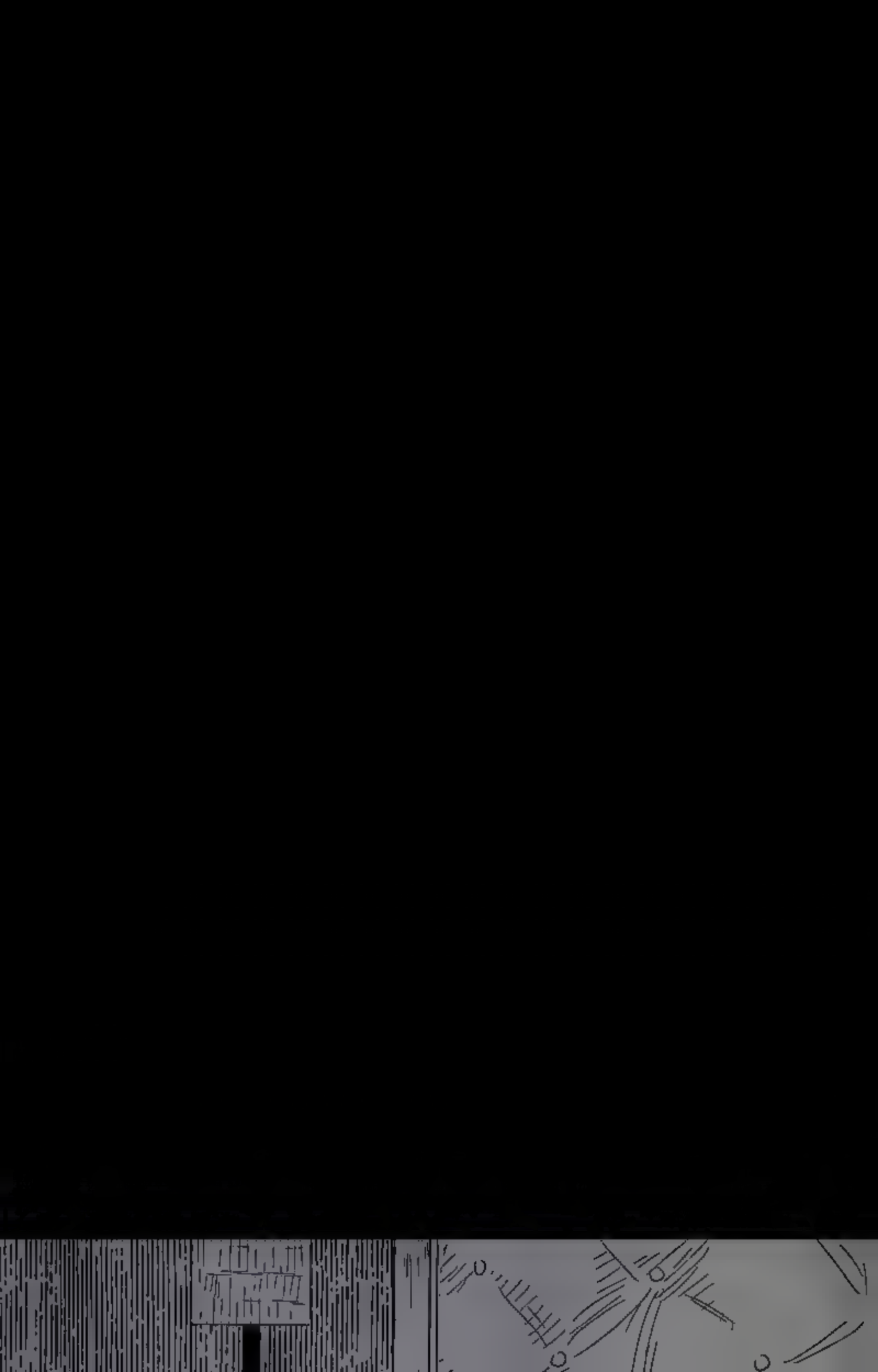

KREEAK

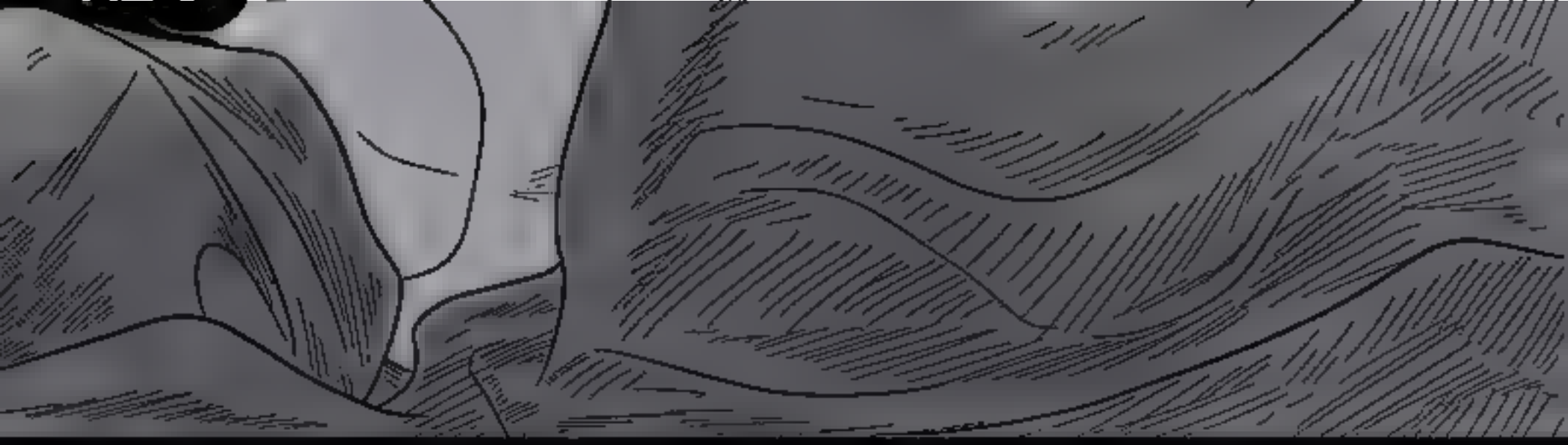


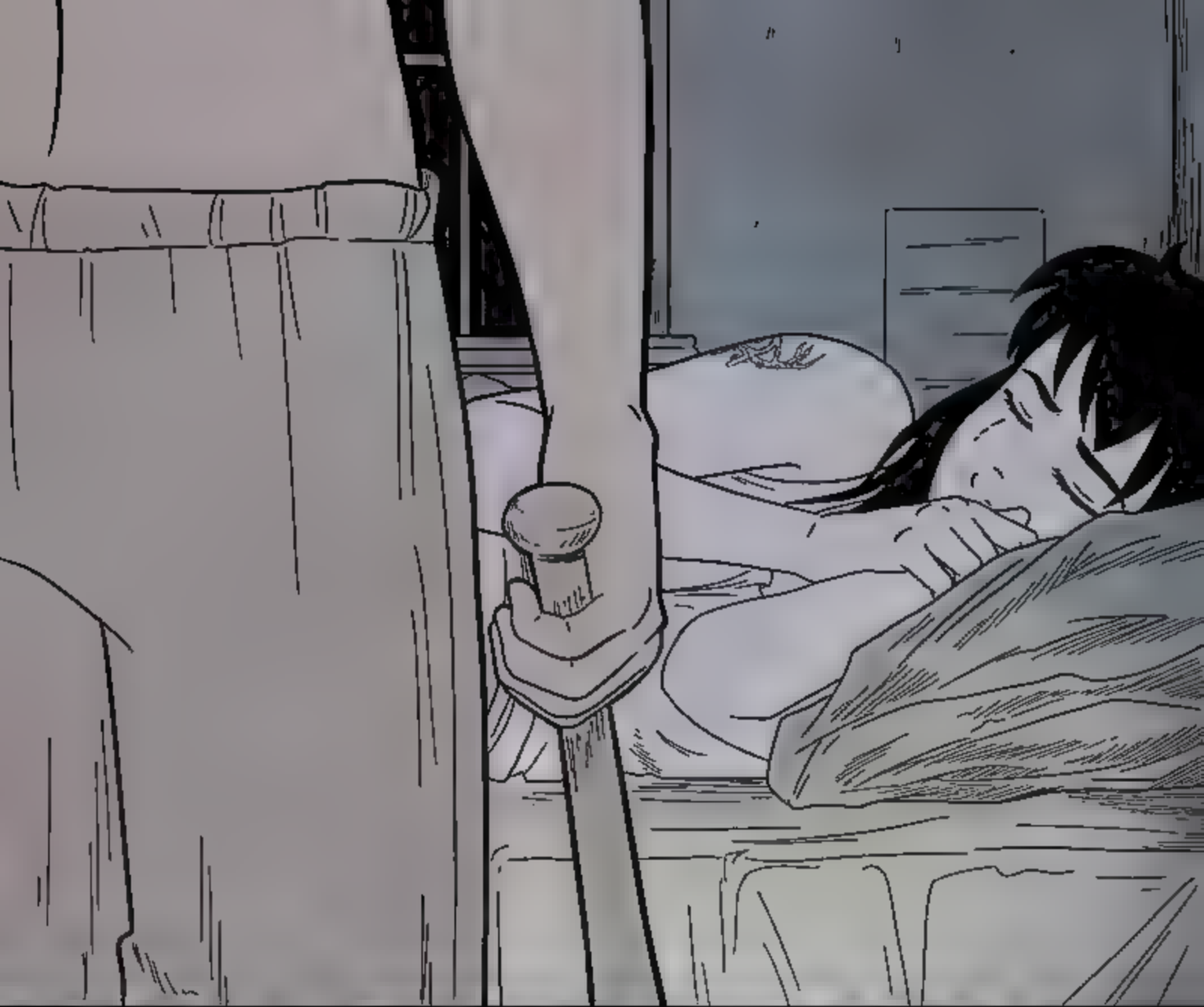


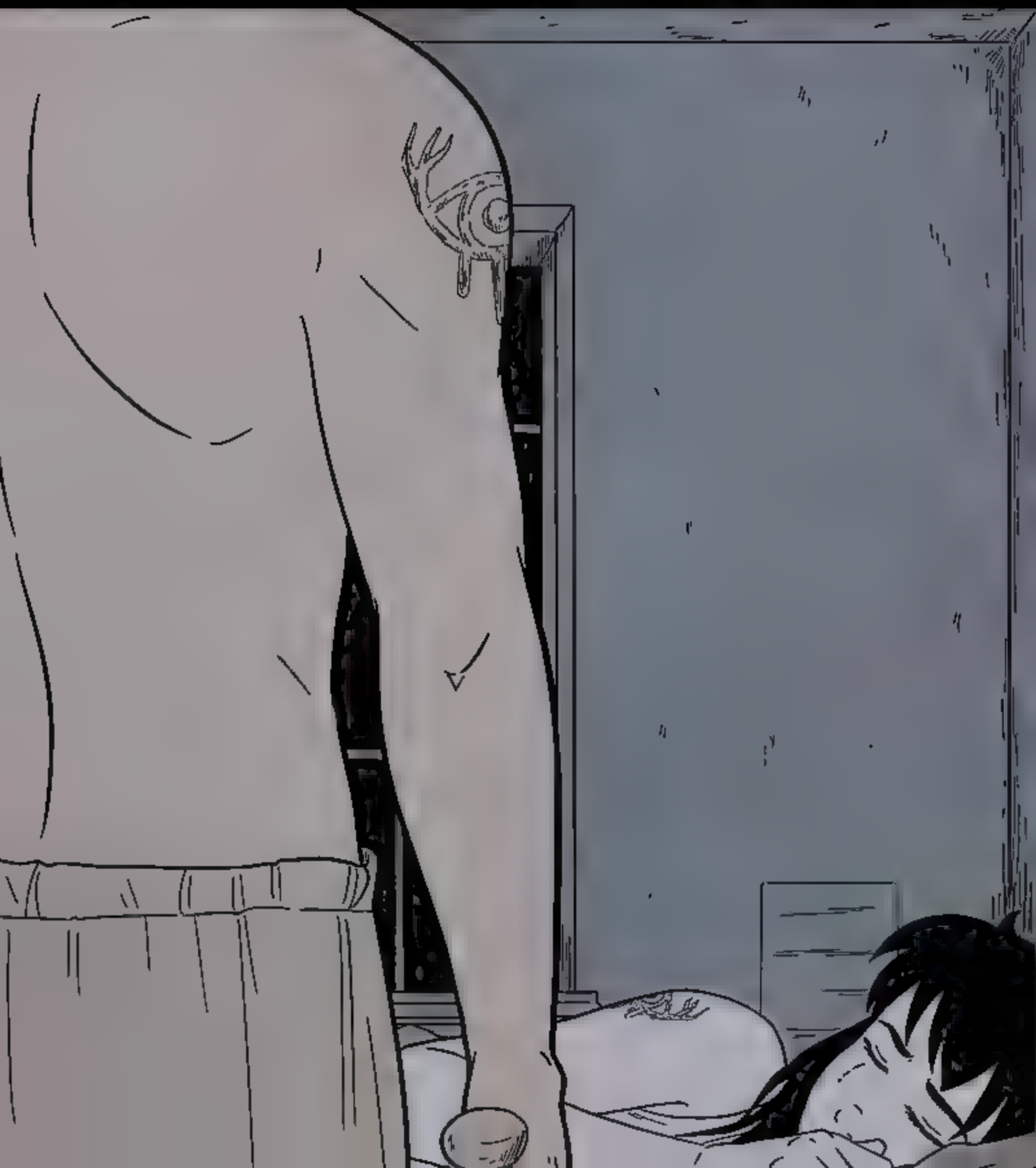


DRAAAAG...

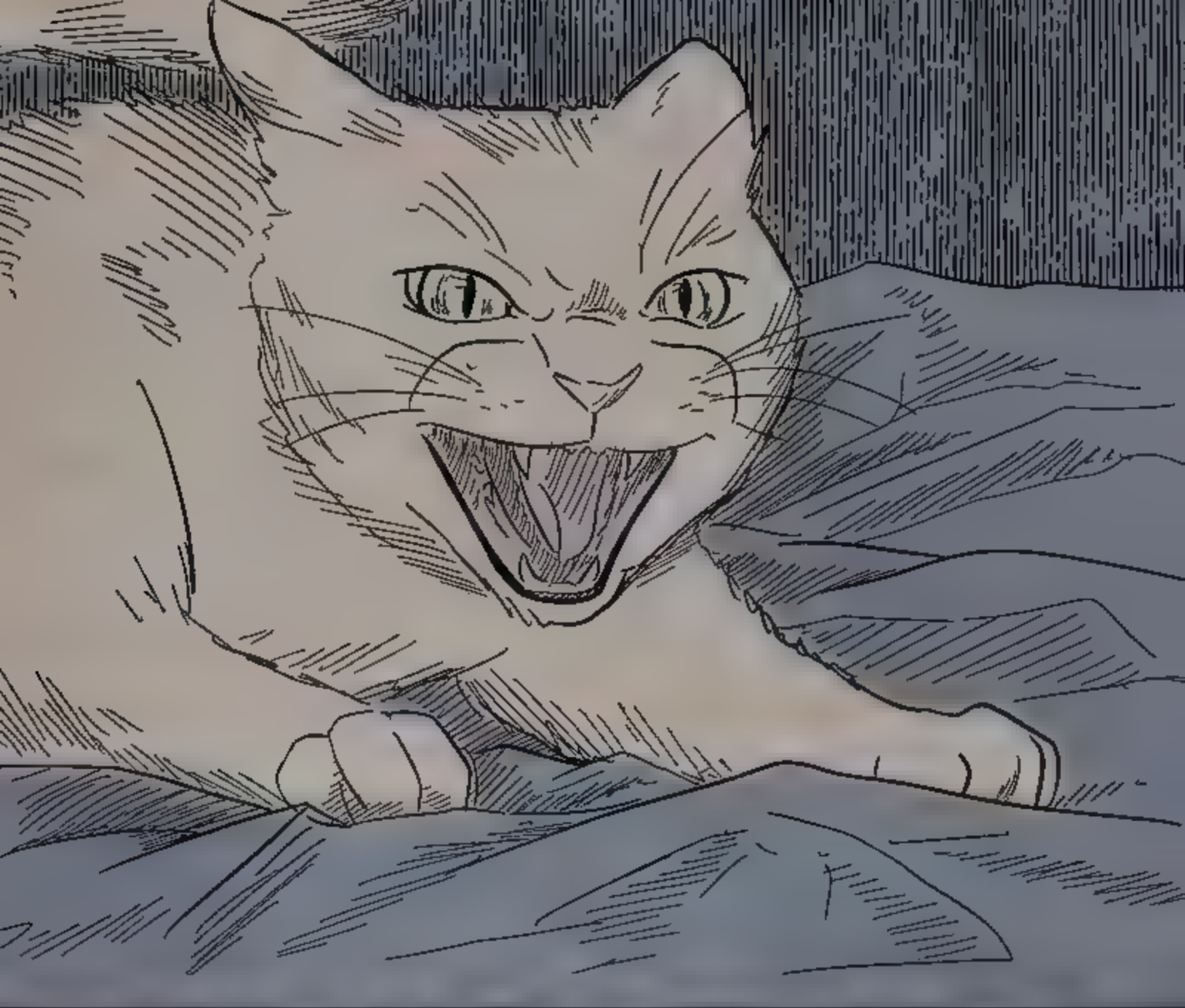


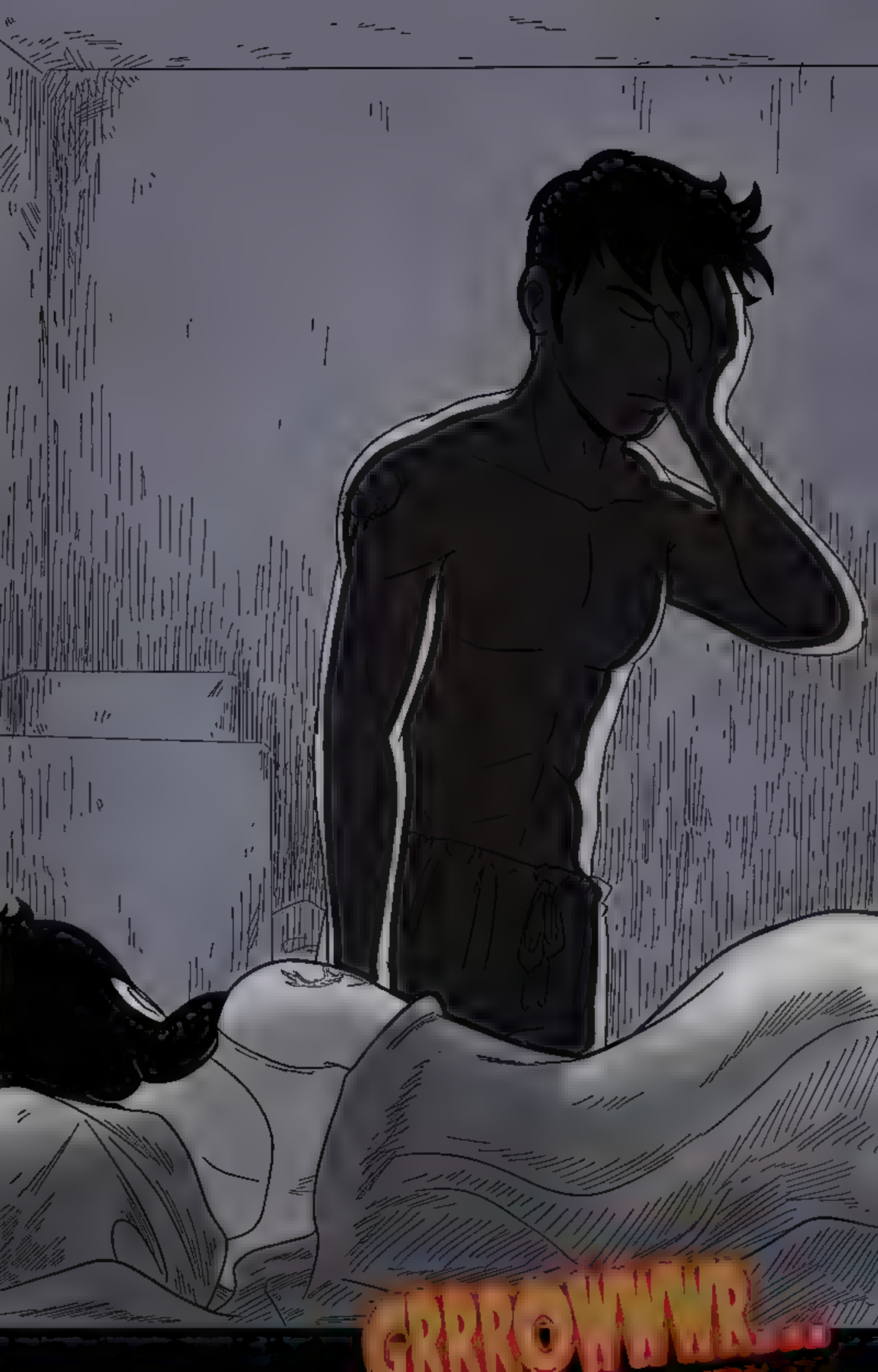


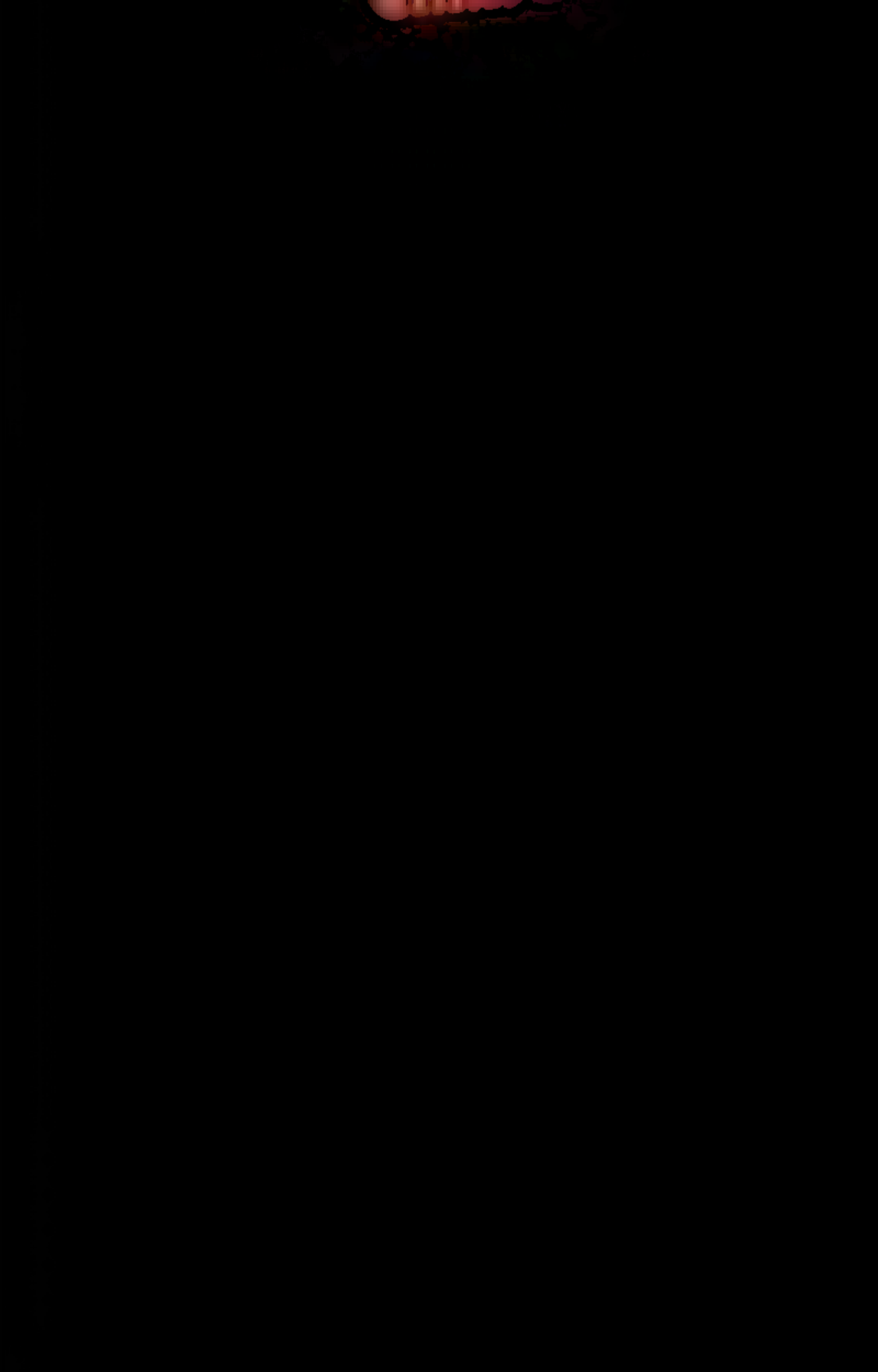


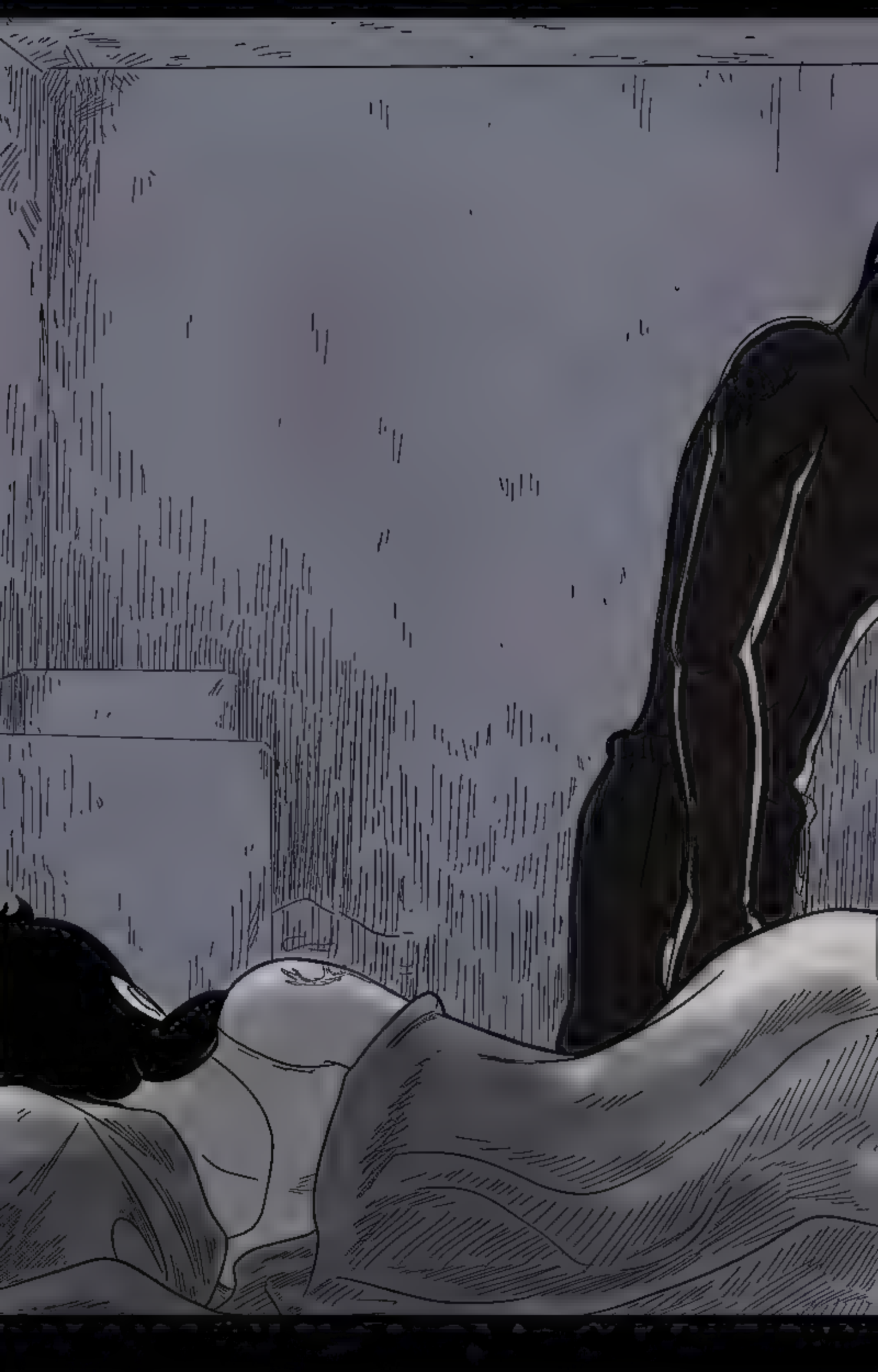


GRIP
RRRROWWWWR...
HISSSS

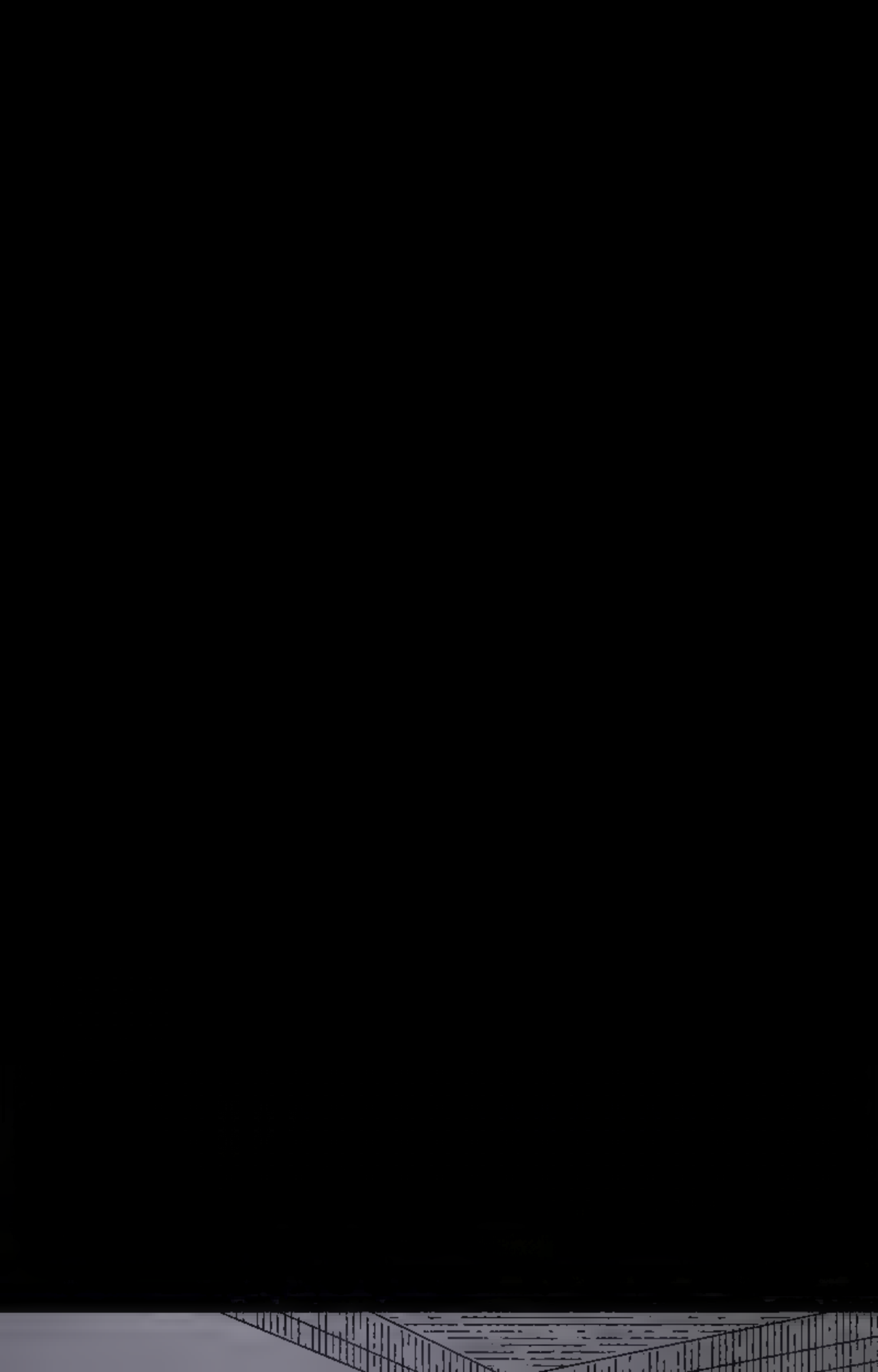


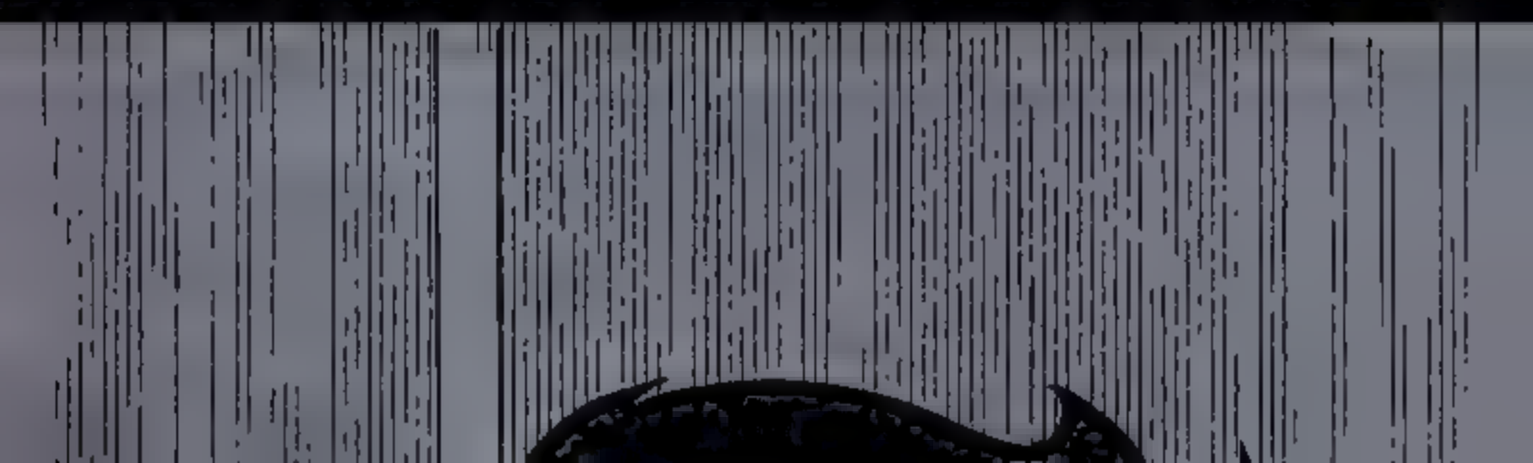

GRRROWWWR

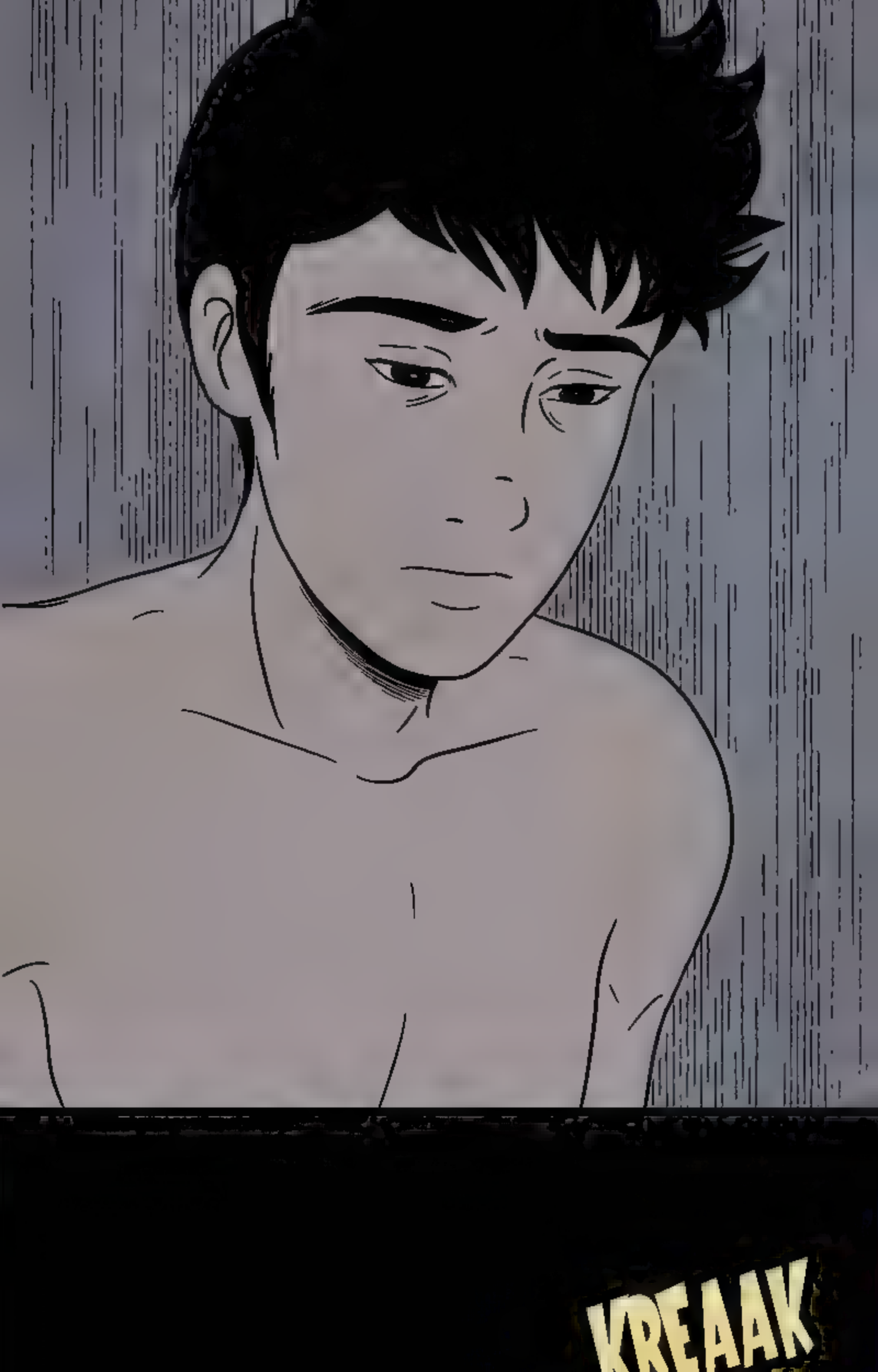




click






KREAAK

FELIX?

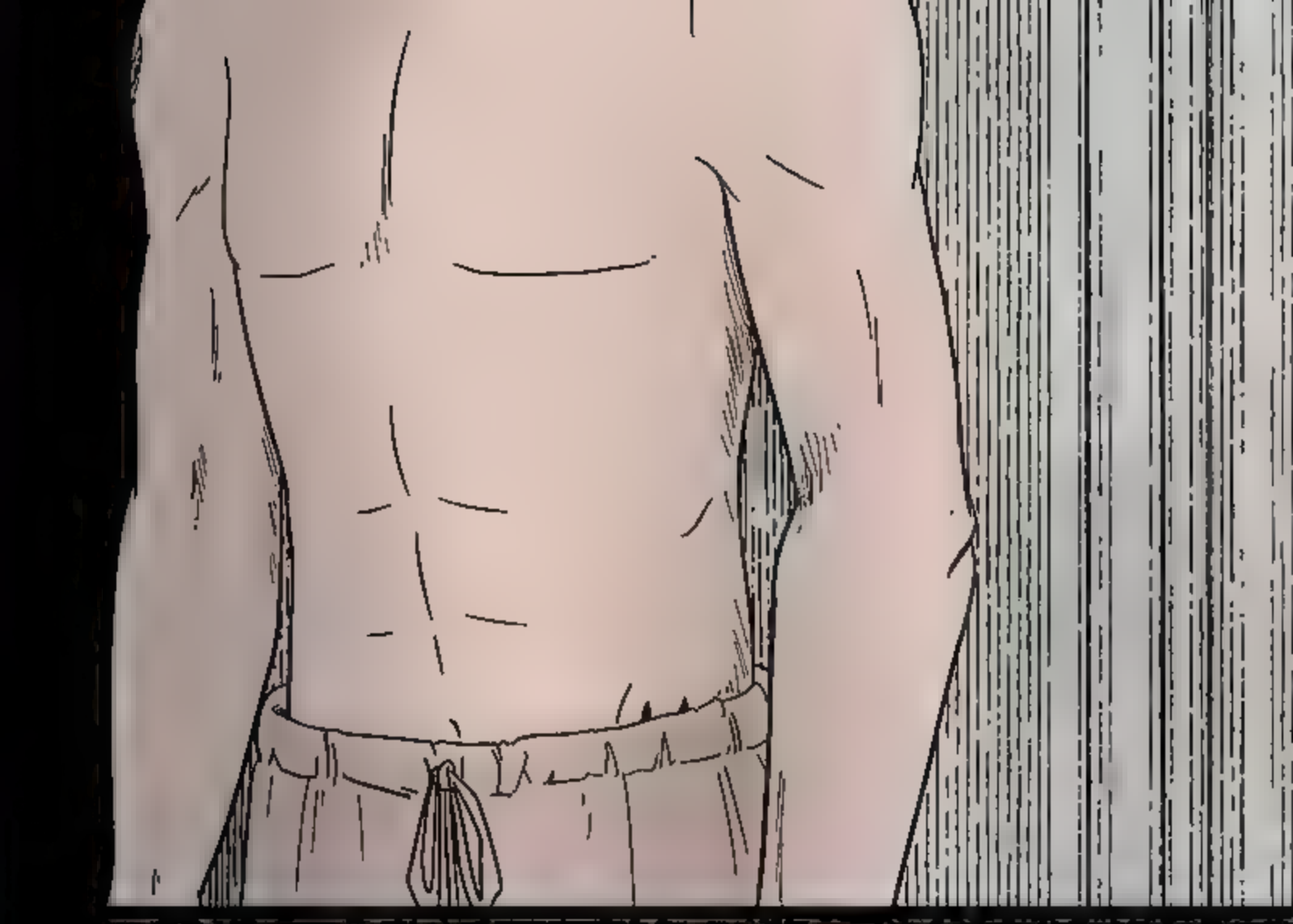
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

FELIX? YOU SLEEPWALKING?

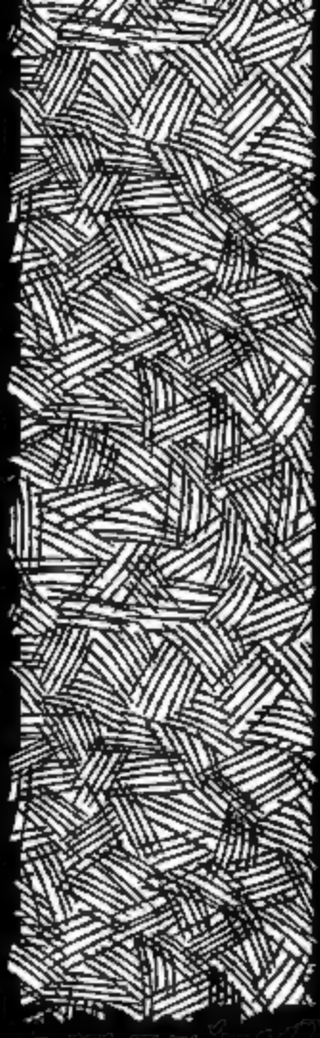
DUDE...

WHY DO YOU HAVE YOUR BAT?

WHAT'S WRONG, MAN?



I...



I DON'T KNOW.